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# THE GREAT ROUND WORLD

AND WHAT IS GOING ON IN IT



A WEEKLY NEWSPAPER FOR BOYS AND GIRLS

WILLIAM BEVERLEY HARISON, PUBLISHER

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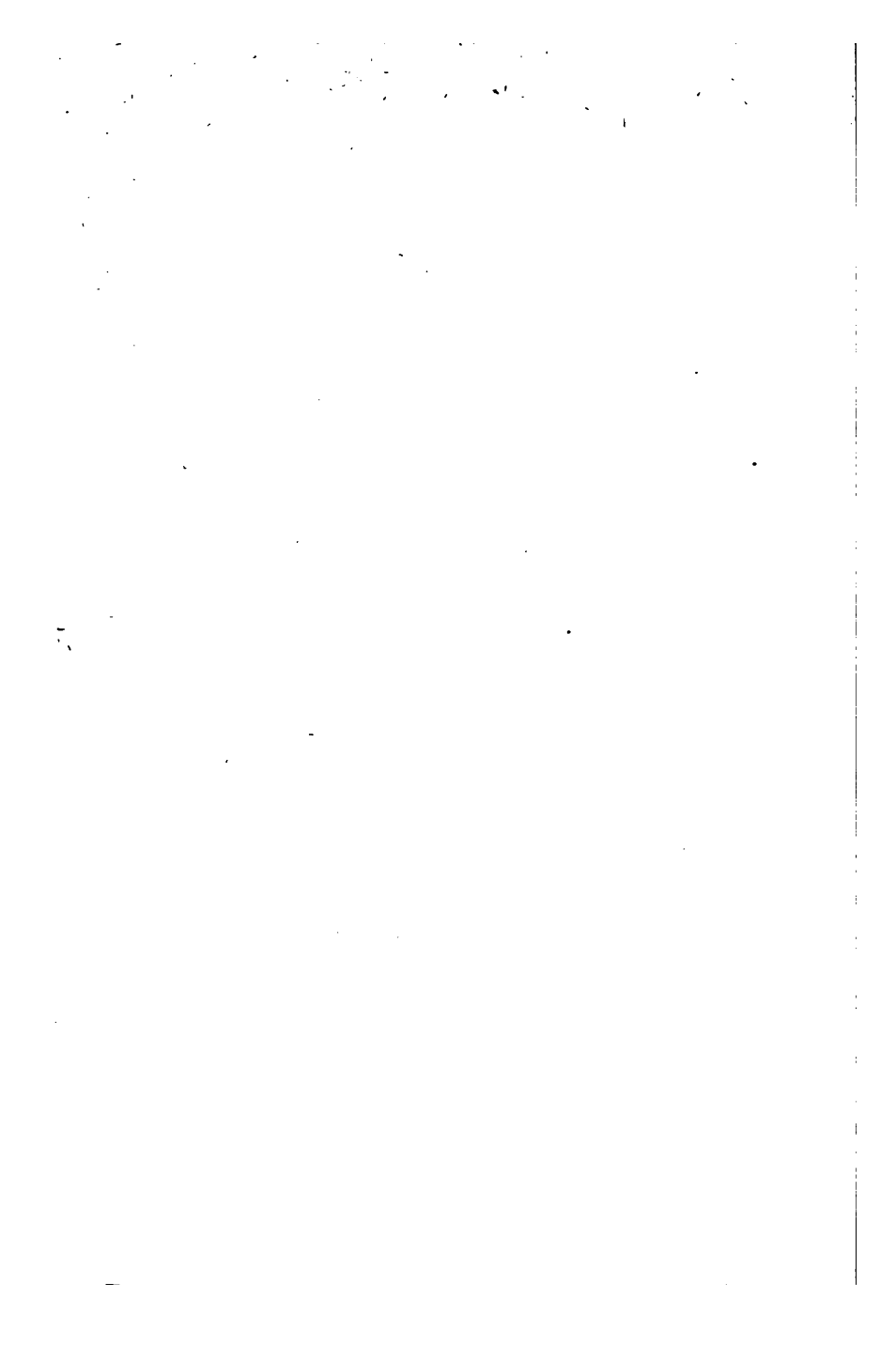
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# THE GREAT ROUND WORLD

A  
HISTORY OF OUR OWN TIMES  
  
FOR BOYS AND GIRLS

PART IV

SEPTEMBER 23 to DECEMBER 30  
1897



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## INDEX TO VOLUME ONE

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### COMPRISING

- Part I.—November 11, 1896 to February 18, 1897
- Part II.—February 25, 1897 to June 3, 1897
- Part III.—June 10, 1897 to September 16, 1897
- Part IV.—September 23, 1897 to December 30, 1897



# INDEX TO VOL. I.

(Parts I. II. III. IV.)

- 
- About Greece and Crete, by Mary A. Parmele, 541
- Abyssinia—  
 Description of Menelik, 1062  
 French Expedition to, 670  
 Menelik Appoints a Russian Governor, 1143
- Afghanistan, Ameer of, Suspected of Encouraging Rebellion, 1243
- Africa, Benia Massacre, 344  
 Troubles in Niger Territory, 1495, 1642
- Air-ship, 7, 707
- Alaska—  
 Climbing Mount St. Elias, 948, 1278  
 Reindeer in, 1558
- Albanians Described, 1631
- Aldermen and Franchise, 200
- Amagansett, The Whalers of, 488
- Ambassadors, 88
- American Duchess, 105
- Americans Imprisoned in Siberia, 876
- An American Venice, 802
- Ancient Greece, Story of, by Mary A. Parmele, 715
- André, Major—Prison at Tappan, 1666
- Andrée—  
 Expedition to North Pole Starts, 859, 1188  
 News of, 1227, 1528, 1532, 1559, 1615
- Animatograph to be used at Queen's Jubilee, 673
- Anjou, Duke of, Sues Duke of Orleans for Title of King of France, 482
- Annapolis Launch d, 224
- Aquarium in New York, 368
- Arbitration, 4, 53  
 Discussion of, by Mary P. Parmele, 203
- Final Arrangements for Venezuelan Treaty, 397
- No Progress Made with Treaty with England, 598, 448
- Of Hawaiian Immigration Dispute, 1084, 1160
- Of Venezuelan Boundary Dispute, 968
- Oscar of Sweden as Umpire, 364
- Treaty with England, 301, 803, 1000
- Armenia, 20, 37  
 Armenians, Fresh Massacre of, 637
- Armenian Outrage in Constantinople, 1235
- New Patriarch, 112
- Reforms Projected, 1319
- Armor-Plate, Cost of Government Plant for, 1184, 1324
- Austria—  
 Austria and Hungary, 1010
- Baden's Duel, 1391
- Disgraceful Scenes in Reichsrath, 1609, 1623
- Hungary on the Compact, 1635
- Kossuth Fails to Carry out His Scheme, 1681
- Ministry Falls, 1680
- Race Prejudices, 1651
- Riots in Prague, 1653, 1662
- Riots in Vienna, 1623
- Standrecht, 1654
- Avalanche, 1283

---

Part I., pages 1 to 388; Part II., pages 389 to 868; Part III., pages 869 to 1290; Part IV., pages 1291 to 1700.

**Avalanche Partly Destroys Monastery of Mount St. Bernard, 535**

**Badeni, Count's, Duel, 1332**

**Bahama Islands, 1523**

**Bancroft, the, Ordered to Turkey, 24**

**Barney and Duke, 224**

**Barrios of Guatemala, 1412**

**Bayard, Mr., and English Admirers, 171**

**Belgium, Story of King Leopold of, 909**

**Belligerents, Rights of, 1322**

**Benin, King of, Surrenders, 1253**

**Massacre, 344**

**Punishing King of, for Massacre, 481**

**Bering-Sea Dispute, 732**

**Bernard, St., Monastery Partly Destroyed by Avalanche, 535**

**Bicycle Train, 708**

**Duel, 1039**

**For Klondike, 1268**

**No Wheeling on Sunday, 1138**

**Trip of Company E, 1136, 1165**

**Bills—**

**For Relief of Flood Sufferers, 700**

**How Passed, 315**

**Immigration, 491**

**Morgan Bill for Cuban Belligerency, 698, 820, 869**

**Nicaragua Canal, 363, 448**

**Senator Cameron's Cuban, 187**

**Tariff (Dingley), 587, 675, 705, 800, 890, 964, 1024, 1033, 1,101**

**To Introduce Closure in Senate, 766**

**To Prevent High Buildings, 427**

**Bimetallism, Short Talk on, 1263**

**Bismarck's Revelations, 58, 81**

**Blenheim Palace, 106**

**Blockade of Charleston, 459**

**Blondin, Death of, 532**

**Board of Trade and Transportation, Work of, 427**

**Boers, The, 514**

**Book Reviews—**

**A Child's World, James Whitcomb Riley, 534**

**A Few Familiar Flowers, Margaret W. Morley, 1068**

**A Primer, Finch, 863**

**Andrew Lang's Story-Book, 242**

**Book Reviews—**

**Animal Life, Florence Bass, 354**

**Appleton's Home Readers, 1650**

**At Agincourt, Henty, 69**

**Black Beauty, 123**

**Bookkeeping Simplified, by Waggener, 924**

**Carved Cartoon, 653**

**Chapters on Plant Life, Herrick, 69**

**Cruise of a Land Yacht, Baxter, 295**

**Cyr's New Third Reader, 242**

**Dan Beard's American Boy's Book of Sport, 583**

**Don Malcolm, Thurston, 324**

**Eva and the Fairies, 242**

**First Year Book, Hazen, 324**

**Great Round World Natural History Stories, 863**

**Gypsy Year, 1650**

**Hans Brinker, or the Silver Skates, 91**

**History of Victoria, 363**

**Kindergarten in Missions, A. D. F. Randolph, 924**

**Life in Asia, Kate Smith, 584**

**Neuer Deutscher Jugendfreund, 1678**

**Neues Bilderbuch, 1678**

**Old Lamps for New Ones, 1622**

**Old Mother Earth, 1425**

**On the Irrawaddy, 70**

**Pierre and His Poodle, 1590**

**Plant Life, Florence Bass, 353**

**Pocket History of Presidents, 924**

**Short Stories of English History, Albert F. Blaisdell, 1068**

**Story of Ulysses, 1590**

**Story of Washington, Jessie R. Smith, 924, 1425**

**The Boy Who Tried, 242**

**The Werner Primer, Taylor, 324**

**Thekla von Gumpert, 1677**

**Threes of Us, Izora Chandler, 469**

**Tochter Album, 1677**

**With Cochrane the Dauntless, 69**

**Books, Letters from Young Friends on—**

**A Flock of Boys and Girls, by Nora Perry, from Madeline H. P., 387**

**Black Beauty, from M. P. Day, 123**

- Books, Letters from Young Friends on—  
 Childhood of the World, from Louis  
 E. Wise, 295  
 Hope Benham, from Helen M. P.,  
 255
- Books to Read. *See* Lists of  
 Boone, Daniel, Gun of, 1339  
 Boycotting, Story of, 998  
 Boys in Grant Parade, 787  
 Branding Seals, 879  
 Brazil, Insurrection in, 596, 741, 1135  
 British Square, 1,358  
 Broadway Steal, 200  
 Brooklyn Bridge Elevator, 255  
 Bullet-Proof Cloth, 1,341  
 Bunce, Admiral, Fleet at Charleston,  
 459
- Cabinet Officers, 573  
 Cable Franchise, 1421  
 Cabot Celebration in Halifax, 1037  
 Cameron Resolution Dropped, 312  
 Canada Eager for Independence, 1466  
 Canal—  
 Across Russia, 1305  
 Nicaragua, Story of, 319  
 Panama, Story of, 360  
 Canal Destroyed by Gophers, 1119  
 Cannibal Islands, King of, 256  
 Cannon Stolen from West Point, 888, 910  
 Canovas Assassinated, 1189  
 Capitol, The Washington, 157  
 Captain Cook, Story of, 1159  
 Caravans Crossing the Desert, 1224  
 Carlisle Indians, 29  
 Carlisle—  
 Active, 563, 1327, 1332, 1588, 1605  
 Don Carlos on Rising, 1123  
 Gathering of, 1002, 1246  
 Making Capital of Opposition to  
 Home Rule, 1666  
 Queen Appeals to Don Carlos, 1350  
 Riots in Barcelona, 1121  
 Struggle for Crown, 1193  
 Carrier-Pigeons, 1140  
 Censor, Spanish, 184  
 Central America, Greater Republic of,  
 231  
 Charlotte of Belgium, Empress of  
 Mexico, Story of, 629, 1331
- Charter of City of Greater New York,  
 675, 705  
 Cheyenne Rising, 941  
 Chief Joseph Visits New York, 796  
 China—  
 Foot-binding, 103  
 Language and Students, 11  
 Seizure of Kiao-Chou by Germany,  
 1595, 1636, 1661  
 Treaty with Russia, 166  
 Chinamen of See Yup Society, 598  
 Chinese Envoys' Anger at Quarantine  
 Laws, 825  
 Exclusion Act, 767  
 Merchants in Philippines, 41  
 Pirates, 1235  
 Relics in Mexico, 1142  
 Clayton-Bulwer Treaty, 449  
 Closure Bill in Senate, 766  
 Coal-Mine Described, 883  
 Coast Defence, New Method of, 774  
 Coast Defences, 103  
 Coats of Arms, 806  
 Commissions in English Army, 1100  
*Commodore*, Filibuster, 253, 273  
 Commons, House of, 1478  
 Competitor Case, 1124  
 Condensed Foods for Klondike, 1266  
 Congress, Bill to Increase Army, 312  
 Defiance of, by Olney, 213  
 Description of Both Houses, 157  
 Extra Session of, for Tariff Legisla-  
 tion, 585  
 Resolution in Regard to Cuba, 167  
 To Reassemble, 1607  
 Conselhiero of Brazil, 741  
 Consuls, Duties of, 38  
 Co-operative Town—  
 Debs' Town, 1029  
 Ruskin, Tenn., 1027  
 Copper Mines Discovered, 245  
 Coral Insect, 1521  
 Corner in Wheat, 25  
 Coronation Ceremonies, 967  
 Crete—  
 Blockade of, 589  
 Blockade Raised, 1299  
 Djavad Pasha Not Recognized, 1215  
 Fighting Continues, 479, 561  
 Governor for, 1022



## Crete—

- Highland Soldiers Frighten Turks, 663
- Insurrection in, 494
- Powers Insist on Home Rule, 1604
- Refuses Home Rule, 522, 690
- Sultan Interferes, 1465
- Terms of Home Rule, 1077
- Crete and Greece, Isora O. Chandler, 403
- Cruiser, New, Launched, 224
- Crusoe's Island, 243, 290, 970

## Cuba—

- Almaden Quicksilver Mines, 1033
- Assassination of Canovas, 1189
- Blanco's Efforts, 1518
- Calhoun, Mr., Investigates Death of Dr. Ruiz, 845, 874, 898
- Canovas Resigns, 927
- Capote, President of, 1366
- Capture of Gen. Rius Rivera, 641, 637
- Capture of Spanish Gunboat *Cometa*, 367
- Carlists, 1008, 1121, 1122, 1193, 1246, 1337
- Case of *Silver Heels*, 1437
- Competitor Case, 1124
- Competitor Prisoners Released 1584
- Competitor Trial, 1543
- Conflicting Accounts of Maceo, 338
- Cubans Active, 1079
- Cubans Advance on Havana, 1126
- Cubans' Cause Prospering, 1048
- Cubans Gain Ground, 773
- Cubans' Victories, 1023
- Dauntless, 900, 962, 1003, 1026
- Dauntless Makes Three Trips, 1352
- Dauntless Off Again, 1640
- Description of Island Before War, 1050
- Divisions of Cuban Army, 640
- Dock on Its Travels, 1435
- Duke of Tetuan Boxes the Ears of a Senator, 927
- Dynamite Gun, 115, 641
- Electing a New President for, 1209, 1236
- Election in, 1296

## Cuba—

- Election Undecided, 1433, 1008
- Evangeline Cisneros Escapes, 1433
- Fighting Around Havana, 333
- Fillbuster *Laurada*, 529
- Fillbustering, 50
- Fillbustering Station in Bahamas, 1521
- Floating Dock, 1353
- Fondeviella's Cruelty, 310
- Fondeviella Promoted, 596
- Forcing Country People into Towns, 841
- General Garcia's Brilliant Work, 640
- General Gomez Advances, 661
- General Gomez Speaks of Situation in, 415
- General Woodford's Mission, 958, 1126, 1273
- General Woodford Received by the Queen, 1294
- Gomez Marching on Havana, 337
- Gomez Refuses to Treat with Weyler, 1164
- Government, Insurgent, 51
- Havana Volunteers, 1664
- Home Rule for, 1488, 1513, 1536, 1638
- Ill-Treatment of Spanish Soldiers, 247
- Insurgent Successes, 1432
- Laurada* Expedition, 658
- Lee, Consul, Asks for Ships to Protect Americans, 478
- Maceo Reported Alive, 249
- Merchants Arrested, 1006
- Miss Cisneros Becomes an American, 1460
- Morgan Resolutions, 638
- Mr. Taylor on Cuba, 1520
- New Spanish Premier, 1246
- Olney and the Cameron Bill, 213
- Passing of Morgan Bill, 869
- Petition from Cubans, 930
- President Recommends Relief of Americans in, 841
- President's Message, 160
- And Supplement to Follow, 129
- President's Message Expected, 49

Cuba—

Protest Against Sending More Troops to, 1097  
 Raising Money for, 1025  
 Ramon Blanco Appointed, 1429  
 Rebels' Proclamation Against Home Rule, 1639  
 Rebels Prospering, 1351  
 Reforms for, 1001  
 Relief Fund, 842, 872, 1025  
 Report of Spanish Alliance with Japan, 1096  
 Report of Weyler's Recall, 1078  
 Rius Rivera, 1025  
 Rius Rivera Sails for Spain, 1601  
 Rothschild, House of, 1023  
 Ruiz, Dr., Mysterious Death in Prison, 474  
 Ruiz Investigation, 875, 900, 1123  
 Ruiz, Mrs., in Washington, 568  
 Sangully, 699  
 Sangully said to be Returning to Cuba, 656  
 Sangully Set Free, 527  
 Sangully Suspected, 1693  
 Santiago Province, Now Free Cuba, 638  
 Senator Cameron's Resolution, 187  
 Sharpshooters, 88  
 Siege of Arroyo Blanco, 451  
 Smuggling Arms, 1455  
 Spain Appeals to Powers, 897  
 Spain Offers Home Rule, 247  
 Spain's Money Failing, 566  
 Spaniards Attack Hospitals, 733  
 Spaniards Recognize Cubans as Belligerents, 1322  
 Spanish Censor, 184  
 Spanish Cortes, Dimensions in, 925  
 Spanish Possessions, 1295  
 Spanish Soldiers Dissatisfied, 661  
 Spanish Soldiers Join Insurgents, 371  
 Story of Swamp, 1680  
 Success of Cubans, 1208, 1542, 1663  
 Success of Insurgents, 1519  
*Silver Heels* Affair, 1491 1521  
 Tariff Question, 1606, 1608  
*Three Friends*, 531  
 Treachery to Maceo, 141

Cuba—

Trocha, 6  
 Troubles in Spanish Army, 596  
 Troubles over Taylor's Letter, 1537  
 United States Interceded for General Rivera, 596  
 Victorias de las Tunas Taken, 1230  
 Victory for Gomez, 813  
 War in Cuba, 4  
 Ward Line Offers Steamer for Fund, 874  
 Weyler Accused, 929  
 Weyler's Campaign, 101  
 Weyler Declares Cuba Pacified, 369  
 Weyler, Demonstrations for, 1490, 1535, 1690  
 Weyler in Disgrace, 1541  
 Weyler Leaves Cuba, 1515  
 Weyler to be Recalled 1885, 1892, 1498  
 Weyler's Paper Money, 90  
 Weyler's Treatment of Women, 420  
 Woodford's Mission, 1387  
 Woodford's Note Published, 1425  
 Wreck of Cuban Steamer, 1454  
 Wrongs of Spanish Soldiers, 1061  
 Cyclone Visits Europe, 1005  
 Czar of Russia, Character Anecdotes of, 393  
 D'Aumale, Story of Duke, 829  
*Dauntless*, the Filibuster, 253, 278, 371, 421, 900, 962, 1003, 1026, 1352, 1640  
 Dead-Man's Curve, 117, 404, 1063  
 Deer Shooting on Long Island, 54  
 Defence, Coast, New Method Tried, 774  
 Delagoa Bay, Transvaal Tries to Purchase It, 1051  
 Diamond, Great White, 908, 327  
 Diamond, Making a, 176  
 Dingley Bill, 537, 675, 705, 800  
 Divers, Diving, Diving-Bells, 76, 1635  
 Dogs, The Famous St. Bernard, 535  
 Draining Hackensack Meadows, 344  
 Drill, Fire, at Cambridge Manual Training-School, 744  
 Dunraven, Earl of, Evicting Tenants, 111  
 Dynamite Gun, Failure of, 644  
 Earth, Measuring the, 113

- Earthquake in Kansas, 1616**  
     in Leeward Islands, 786  
     in United States, 912  
**Egypt, Reigning Family, 890**  
**El Dorado, Story of, 1156**  
**Election—**  
     How We Elect our President, 165  
     McKinley's, 38  
     Meeting of Electoral College of  
         New York, 309  
**Electoral College Elects McKinley,**  
     461  
**Electric Railroad, 917**  
**Elephant Battery in India, 801**  
**Ellis Island, Buildings on Destroyed by**  
     Fire, 969  
**Emigrants, The Way They are Handled,**  
     491  
**Emperor of Germany's Statue Un-**  
     veiled, 645  
**England, Arbitration Treaty with—**  
     Makes Slow Progress, 398  
     Discussed, 448  
     Rejected, 808  
**Equinox, 1443**  
**Esquimaux Sick, 1698**  
**Europe, Situation in, 131**  
**Evictions, in Ireland, 111**  
**Examination of Police, 576**  
**Excommunication of Spanish Minister,**  
     1382, 1436  
**Exhibition of Children's Work, 650**  
**Exhibition, Tennessee Centennial, 785**  
  
**Feathers, Law Against Wearing, 1110**  
**Federation of British Colonies, 1177**  
**Filibustering, 49, 190**  
     Competitor, 1124  
     Dauntless, 900, 962, 1003, 1026  
     Dauntless and Commodore, 253, 273,  
         371  
     Dauntless Makes Three Trips, 1359  
     Laurada Sails, 530  
     Laurada Trial, 107, 190  
     Laurada's Successful Trip, 659  
     New Administration Hard on Them,  
         569  
     New Trial for *Three Friends*, 531  
     On Florida Keys, 273  
     Secretary Gage's Report on, 1636  
  
**Filibustering—**  
     *Silver Heels* Affair, 1487, 1491,  
         1698  
     *Three Friends* Declared a Pirate, 431  
     *Three Friends* Expedition, 163, 250,  
         273, 338, 371  
**Fire Drill in Cambridge Manual Train-**  
     ing-School, 744  
**Fire-Proof Buildings, 423**  
**First Thanksgiving Day, 44**  
**Fish, Strange Specimens Found in**  
     Alaska, 1271  
**Flag of Truce, 142**  
**Flags: Stars and Stripes, 37**  
**Floating Dock for Cuba, 1353, 1435**  
**Floods—**  
     Government to Control Levees, 913  
     In Guthrie, Oklahoma, 771  
     In Mississippi Valley, 643, 672, 700,  
         732, 772  
     In the Northwest, 84  
     New Orleans Crevasse Closed, 940  
**Flower Festival in California, 946**  
**Flying Machine, 9**  
**Fondeviella, Cruelties of, 310**  
**Food Condensed for Klondike, 1266**  
**Football: Carlisle vs. Yale, 29**  
     Prohibited, 1563  
**Foot-Binding in China, 168**  
**Forest Fires, 1445, 1475**  
**France—**  
     Enthusiasm over Alliance with  
         Russia, 1284  
     Lawsuit about Title of King of, 463  
     President of, Visits Czar, 1256  
**Franz Schubert's Centennial, M. Bou-**  
     chier Sanford, 435  
**Freeville, Junior Republic, 429**  
  
**George, Henry, 1511**  
**Germany, Unveiling the Statue of Em-**  
     peror William I., 645  
**Gipsy Moth, 822**  
**Glaciers, 1281**  
**Gold—**  
     Attempting to Make, 915  
     Discovery of, on Border of Alaska,  
         1103  
     New Find in California, 1156  
     Richness of Klondike Find, 1110

## Gold—

- Story of Discovery of Klondike, 1104
- The Forty-Niners, 1 151
- Gold Mine, Roughing It in, Jules W. L., Jr., 648
- Gophers Destroy a Canal, 1119
- Grant Monument Dedicated, 281, 707
- Grant Parade, Boys in, 757
- Greater New York, Charter of, 675, 705
- Greater Republic of Central America, 221
- Guatemala Joins, 1014
- Great Round World and People Who Lived on It, by Mme. Zenaide de Ragozin: Chapter I., 985; Chap. II., 1144; Continued, 1220, 1257; Chap. III., 1587

## Greece—

- Anger Against Royal Family, 818
- Armistice Asked for, 848
- Armistice Broken, 957
- Armistice Granted, 876
- Blockade of Canea, 444
- Blockade of Crete, 589
- Change in the Ministry, 775, 1401
- Colonel Vassos, 447
- Comparison of Greek and Cuban Wars, 815
- Comparison of Greek and Turkish Armies, 729
- Concert of Powers Breaks Up, 689
- Crete Refuses Home Rule, 690
- Crete, Terms of Home Rule, 1077
- Crown Prince goes to Larissa, 666
- Defeated, Appeals to Europe, 804
- Defies Powers, 443
- Difficulty of Arranging Peace, 1288
- Djevad Pasha in Crete, 1215
- England Threatens Turkey, 955
- Enraged Against Germany, 593
- Ethnike Hetaira, 693
- Frontier Line Discussed, 1003
- Gladstone's Appeal, 634
- Goes to Aid of Crete, 424
- Gossip about Retreat from Larissa, 814
- Governor for Crete, 1022
- Greece Dissatisfied about the New Frontier, 1213

## Greece—

- Greeks Invade Turkey, 591, 692
- Greeks Ordered to Leave Crete, 480
- Highlanders Frighten Turks, 662
- King George May Leave Greece, 908
- Mount Ida, 424, 694
- Mount Olympus, 694
- Negotiations Continued, 932, 1164
- On the Eve of War, 695
- Peace Arranged, 1376, 1440
- Powers Again Fire on Greece, 636
- Powers' Attitude Toward, 557
- Powers Fire on Greece, 480
- Powers to Take Charge of Treasury, 1271
- Prince Mavrocordato Goes to Turkey, 1464
- Refuses Home Rule for Crete, 522
- Refuses to Treat with Powers, 779
- Reverses of, Turks Enter, 750
- Shameful Retreat of Greeks, 768
- Sheiks and Their Tribes, 1046
- Situation in Europe with Regard to, 445
- Slow Progress of Negotiations, 1045
- Sultan Brought to Terms, 1130
- Sultan Defies Powers, 1075
- Sultan of Turkey Described, 1441
- Sultan Won't Give up Thessaly, 900
- Terms of Peace, 1001, 1296
- Treaty Signed, 1688
- Troubles Centre on Greek Frontier, 666
- Turkey Appeals to Russia, Germany, and Austria, 956
- Turkey's Terms of Peace with, 813, 846
- Turkish Editors Fined in Paris, 1216
- Turks Ruining Thessaly, 1021
- Ultimatum of the Powers, 524
- Unfriendliness of the Powers to, 790
- War Declared, 709
- War Imminent, 559
- War Map, to face p. 689
- Why Europe Sacrificed Greece, 1343
- Greece and Crete, About, Mary P. Parmele, 541
- Greece, Story of Ancient, Mary P. Parmele, 713

Guatemala, Rebellion in, 1410, 1474  
Suppressed, 1448

#### Haiti—

Description of, 1871  
German War-ships at Port au Prince, 1658  
Germany's Anger Against, 1572  
Lueders Case, 1573, 1634  
Monroe Doctrine 1635

Hamburg, Strike in, 127, 217, 389

#### Hawaii—

Annexion Approved by Committee of Foreign Affairs, 1108  
Annexion of, 1338, 1361, 1406  
Annexion Treaty, 963  
Arbitration with Japan, 1363  
England Seizes Palmyra Island, 1189  
Europe on Annexion, 1089  
Excitement in Honolulu, 1084  
Further Particulars of Treaty, 1004  
Inquiry into Immigration Trouble, 904  
Japan Accuses Us of Discourtesy, 1051  
Japan Agrees to Arbitrate, 1160  
Japan Becomes Friendly to United States, 1558  
Japanese Immigration to, 736, 787, 828  
Japanese Minister's Demand, 906, 1030, 1132  
Japan Protests Against Annexion, 1080, 1132  
Japan's Attitude Threatening, 941  
Japan's Protest in Full, 1086  
Kaiulani Arrives in United States, 1473, 1504  
Liliuokalani Plans, 1363  
Offers to Arbitrate Immigration, 1064  
Our Fleet in Hawaiian Waters, 1108  
Scheme to Outwit Annexion, 1277  
Story of Mr. Spreckels, 1408  
Hawley Strikers, 1311, 1366, 1588  
Health Board, Duties of, 1062  
Heart-beats Visible, X Rays, 17  
Hebrews Returning to Palestine, 1301  
High Buildings, To Prevent, 427

Highlanders Terrify Turks in Crete, 662

Hoar, Senator, Petition for the Birds, 1110

Holland, The New Torpedo-Boat, 886  
Trial of the, 1066

Holland's Young Queen, 1366

Honduras, Rebellion in, 748, 899

Hostages, 1379

Hungary, Banderium, 1013

History of, 1010

Ice-floe, Caught in an, 384

Ice-Yachts, 230

Ida, Mount, 494, 604

Immigration Bill, 491

Immigration, Dr. Senner's Ideas on, 365

Inauguration of President McKinley, 503

#### India—

A Powerful Tribe Joins Rebels, 1342  
A Story of the Mutiny, 173, 1218  
Afridis take Kyber Pass, 1275  
Ameer of Afghanistan, 1443, 1393, 1329, 1643  
Ameer Requests Peace, 1523  
Ameer's Arsenal at Kabul, 1666  
Americans Send Corn to, 389, 340, 1222  
Caste and the Plague, 1073  
Earthquake in, 974  
Elephant Batteries Used, 801  
Famine in, 173  
Fresh Revolts in, 1229, 1408  
Gallantry of Gordon Highlanders, 1483, 1570  
Gallantry of Northamptonshire Regiment, 1567  
Mullah's Camp Captured, 1378  
Plague in, 278, 400, 801  
Revolt Subsiding, 1291, 1569  
Riots and Dissatisfaction, 1053, 1072  
Rising of Hill Tribes, 975  
Rout of Afridis, 1461  
Serious Check to British, 1386  
Troubles on Frontier, 1157, 1217  
Indian Schools, 29  
Indians—  
Mexican Treaty with, 973

**Indians—**

Nex Percés, Chief in New York, 796  
Rising, 941, 971

**Inoculation and Vaccination, 1261**

**Invention and Discovery—**

Advertising Balloons, 807  
Aluminum Cyclometer, 465  
Anatomical Saddle for Bicycles, 465  
Baseball Gun, 293  
Bicycle, Canopy for, 751  
Bicycle Chronometer, 836  
Bicycle Cleaner, 465  
Bicycle, Folding Crate for, 808  
Bicycle Hanger, 151  
Bicycle Holder, 1816  
Bicycle Map, 466  
Bicycle, Newspaper Rack for, 782  
Bicycle Propulsion, 1803  
Bicycle Sleigh Attachment, 501  
Bicycle Support, 501  
Bicycle Umbrella, 502  
Big Python, 580  
Buttonhole Machine, 1018  
Buttons Made of Silk, 438  
Car-steps, 1620  
Chess, by J. L. M., 349  
Clothespin, 1676  
Colored Photography, 1043  
Combination Cot and Folding Bed, 950  
Combination Eraser and Pencil-sharpener, 1175  
Combination Tool, 1286  
Corner Support, 781  
Corn-holder, 1176  
Currycomb, 1619  
Cylindrical Car, 234  
Detachable Shelving, 1022  
Dial Calendar, 950  
Eddy's Kite, 150  
Electric Bicycle Lamp, 307  
Electric Carriage, 95  
Electric Hair Dryer, 1565  
Embroidery Hoop, 1204  
Envelopes, Bronze Lined, 93  
Fish-hook Book, 677  
Foot Pump, 465  
Fruit Cutter, 808  
Fruit Picker, 1174  
Garment Hanger, 1175, 1263

**Invention and Discovery—**

Great Sea Monster, 409  
Hammer, 1566  
Handleless Brush, 865  
Hermann's Trick Explained, 253  
Horseless Fire Engine, 411  
Hose-pipe Tire, 465  
Inventions of 1893, 265  
Japanese Charcoal Bags, 96  
Key-ring, 1287  
Kitchen Cabinet, 1044  
Kite, Lieutenant Wise's, 412  
Lazy Man's Staircase, 265  
Life-saving Ladders for Fires, 96  
Liquid Cement for Tires, 93  
Machine for Sharpening Scissors, 865  
Making a Diamond, 176  
Making New Violins Old, 268  
Motor Sleigh, 95  
Mucilage Brush, 835  
New Car, 1030  
New Diving-machine, 330  
New Flower-pot, 607  
New Gun, 96  
New Inkstand, 606  
New Road to Electricity, 579  
New Waterfall, 152  
Newspaper Slot Machine, 1536  
Niagara to Make Diamonds, 333  
Niagara Utilized, 94  
Paper Cutter, 677  
Paper Doll, 539  
Paper Open Holder, 835  
Parade of Motor Vehicles, 146  
Pencil Sharpener, 1042  
Photos in Relief, 540  
Pioneer Bomb, 348  
Placing or Removing Picture-Hooks, 865  
Pneumatic Tire, 1017  
Pocket-knife, 1594  
Pocket Protector, 865  
Polo Stick, 1505  
Pompeii, 321  
Portable Fire-escape, 752  
Portable Photographic Dark Room, 93  
Portable Refrigerator, 1602  
Post-office Improvement, 1451

## Invention and Discovery—

- Purse and Parcel Carrier, 1397
- Recording Thermometer, 1042
- Road Map, 1316
- Safety Brake for Baby Carriages, 1174
- Safety Tire, 351
- Saucer for Plants, 1675
- School Slates, 1286
- Scissors, 539
- Self-regulating Letter-Box, 1451
- Silk Made from Wood Fibre, 1018
- Skating Cycle, 291
- Sled Propeller, 222
- Snow-Melter, 177
- Spring Caster, 1500
- Station-Indicator, 1022
- Storm Front for Vehicles, 1397
- Stopper for Tires, 1202
- Submarine Torpedo-boat, 148
- Swimming Device, 94
- Tandem Attachment, 837
- Typewriter for Books, 1426
- Water Skate, 751
- Wrist Guide for Piano, 1317

## Ireland—

- Eviction of Tenants, 111
- Famine in, 110, 1487
- Landslide Near Killarney, 259
- Royal Visit to, 1254

## Irish Members Refuse to Attend Jubilee, 908, 997

## Island, Ellis, Buildings Burned, 969

## Italy, Attempt to Kill King Humbert, 797

## Jameson's Raid into Transvaal, 513, 667

## Japan—

- Accuses Us of Discourtesy, 1051
- Agrees to Arbitrate, 1160
- Attitude Threatening, 941
- Becomes Friendly to United States, 1553
- Demand of Minister, 906
- Full Text of Protest, 1085
- Hawaii Offers to Arbitrate, 1084
- Immigration Trouble with Hawaii, 904
- Philippines and Russia, 136
- Protests Against Annexation, 1030, 1132

## Japanese Immigration to Hawaii, 738, 787

## Jewish History, 1301

## Jingoism, 871

## Juan Fernandez Swallowed by the Sea, 243, 290

## Jubilee, Queen Victoria's, 907

## Festivities, 995

## Great White Diamond, 908

## Irish Members Refuse to Attend, 908, 997

## Report that Queen Intends to Abdicate, 993

## Review at Spithead, 1066

## Story of Leopold of Belgium, 909

## Junior Republic at Freeville, 429, 1040

## Jury, Duties of a, 1060

## Kaaba, Sacred Shrine at Mecca, 408

## Katulani, Princess, Arrives, 1473

## Katonah, Moving Houses at, 404

## Kite—

## Eddy's, 36, 105

## Eddy's and Hargreave's, 467

## Lieutenant Wise's, 10, 412

## Klondike—

## Bicycle for, 1286

## Canada's Action, 1154

## Canadian Laws, 1265

## Carrier-Pigeon from, 1235

## Climate and Conditions, 1149

## Condensed Food, 1266

## Discovery of, 1103

## Fears of Famine, 1151

## Map of District, 1106

## Mode of Travelling, 1268

## Reindeer, 1270

## Richness of Find, 1108

## Wonderful Fish, 1271

## Kootenay, Trouble in the Mines of, 949

## Kossuth 1551

## Krüger, Oom Paul, President of Transvaal, 514

## Language, Study of, 1632

Launching of the *Annapolis*, 224*Laurada* Trial, 107, 190

## Lazy Man's Staircase, 255

## Leeward Isles Earthquake, 786

## Lesseps, and Panama Canal, 361

**Levees—**

- Closing Crevasse in New Orleans, 940
- Government to Control, 913
- Mississippi, 643
- Li Hung Chang, 11, 193, 828
- Liberia, 138, 219
- Liliuokalani, Queen, Protests Against Annexation, 1006
- Lists of Books to Read, 468, 496, 497, 610, 612, 655, 680, 711, 809, 838, 864, 867
- Log of *Mayflower*, 673, 868
- London, Terrible Fire in, 1612
- Luigi of Savoy, 1279
- Lumber Flume, Trip Down, 574

**Maceo—**

- Conflicting Accounts, 838
- Gomez Hears of His Death, 419
- Indignation About Death, 188
- Reported Alive, 249
- Reported Death of, 141
- Use of Dynamite Gun, 115
- Making Gold, 915
- Manchester Mill Hands, 1539
- Maps, British Possessions, 1190
  - Græco-Turkish War, to face p. 606
  - Klondike District, 1106
  - Switzerland, Gyer, 843
- Maple-Sugar Making, 603
- Marlborough, Duchess of, 105
  - Son Born to Duke of, 1473
- Massachusetts, Law Against Wearing Feathers, 1110
- McKinley, 33
- Mecca, Pilgrimage to, 400
- Menelik of Abyssinia, Expedition to, 670
- Mesa, the Enchanted, Expedition to, 1199
  - Another Story of, 1322
- Message, President's, 1668
- Meteorite, Brought by Peary, 1300 1415
- Mexican Treaty with Yaquis Indians, 973
- Mexico—
  - Charlotte of, Ill, 1331
  - Chinese Monuments in, 1142
  - Story of Empress Charlotte of, 629

**Mexico—**

- Volcano in, 974
- Microbes in the Texas, 129
- Miles, General, Goes to Greece to Study the War, 775
- Military Bicycle Trial, 1136, 1165
- Mills' Model Lodging House, 375
- Mine, Coal, Described, 883
- Ministers, Foreign, 88
- Mississippi River Described, 644
- Mississippi Valley Floods, 643, 672, 700, 732, 772
- Mohammedan Belief, 401
- Molasses Candy, 180
- Money, What Paper Money Represents, 835
- Monroe Doctrine, by Mary P. Parmele, Supplement to follow page 210
- Morgan's Cuban Resolutions, 696, 890
  - Nicaragua Bill, 863
- Morningside Heights, 281
- Morocco, Trouble with, 1116
- Mount Ida, 424, 604
- Mount Olympus, 638
- Mount St. Bernard, Avalanche Partly Destroys Monastery, 585
- Mount St. Elias, Expedition to, 948, 1278
- Mouse, Singing, 493
- Moving, A Mountain, 746
- Moving Houses in Katonah, 404
- Muskrat, 841
- Mutiny, Indian, 173
- Nansen, History of, 1576
- Napoleon III. and Mexico, 629
- Naturalization, How Accomplished, 471
- Naval Reserve, 1086
- Navy, To Increase Our, 1184
- New York, Mayor of, 1509
  - History of Old, 1695
- News and History, Difference Between, 87
- Nez Percés, Chief, in New York, 796
- Niagara Falls Running the Buffalo Cars, 113
- Nicaragua Canal, Story of, 359
  - Canal Bill, Plan to Get It Passed, 448
- Nicaraguan Boundary, 1409



- Niger Territory Troubles, 1495  
 North Pole, 316  
   Andrée's Balloon Voyage, 859  
   Andrée's Expedition, 1138  
   Greely Relics, 1417  
   Meteorite Brought by Peary, 1860, 1415  
   News of Andrée, 1227, 1259, 1525  
   Peary's Expedition, 1088
- Oceanica, 401  
 Oklahoma Canal Story, 1119  
   Floods in Guthrie, 771  
 Olney, Defiance of Congress, 213  
 Olympus, Mount, 693  
 Orleans, Duke of, Sued for Title of King of France, 483  
 Oscar, King of Sweden, 364  
   Orders Monument Erected to Mr. and Mrs. Youmans, 367  
 Ottoman Empire, History of, Mary P. Parmele, 613  
 Our Excursion to Waterbury, H. H. Rogers, Jr., 685
- Palestine, Movement of Jews Thither, 1201  
 Palmyra Island, 1159  
 Panama Canal, Story of, 360  
 Paris, Fire at Bazaar, 823  
 Paterson Weavers' Dilemma, 1199  
 Pauncefote, Sir Julian, Reappointed, 1338  
 Peary Brings Back Meteorite, 1360  
 Peers, House of, 1473  
   Privileges of, 939  
 Philippine Islands, Case of Dr. Rizal, 254  
   Cyclone, 1494  
   Mrs. Rizal Leads a Troop of Soldiers, 931  
   Peace Offered by Spain, 1456  
   Rebellion Spreading, 189  
   Reports from, 1026, 1211  
   Victory for Rebels, 1401  
   Volcano in Luzon, 1297  
   War in, 41  
   War Still Troubling Islands, 570, 803  
 Pier, New Recreation, Opened, 1393  
 Pigeons, Carrier, 1140
- Pins, George C. Cannon, 667  
 Pirates—  
   Chinese, 1225  
   Long Island, 1227  
 Plague in India, 400, 801  
 Poachers, Story of, 56  
 Pole, North—  
   Andrée's Expedition, 1138  
   News of Andrée, 1227  
   Peary's Expedition, 1088  
 Pole, South, Belgian Expedition, 1223  
 Police Examinations, 576  
 Pony, Shetland, Story of, 56  
 Porto Rico, Insurrection in, 700  
 Postal-Box, New, 1170  
 Postal Union, Convention of, 800  
 President McKinley Chooses His Cabinet, 332, 573  
   First Message to Congress, 585  
 President's Message, 160, 1668  
   How Given to Senate, 160  
   Supplement to follow page 124  
 Prisons, Law Forbidding Labor in, 484  
 General Lathrop's Plan for Grouping Criminals, 485  
 Prize Department, 67
- Rail, Third, System, 917  
 Railway Built Across African Desert, 1405  
 Range Finder, 80  
 Reindeer in Alaska, 1270  
 Reindeer to be Used to Help Ice-bound Whalers, 1558  
 Republic, A New, 221  
 Republic, Junior, 1040  
 Rhodes, Cecil, 519, 1130  
 Riot Act, 1313  
 Robinson Crusoe's Island Swallowed, 243, 230  
 Rodriguez, Women in Cuban Jails, 420  
 Ross, Charlie, Story of, 1006  
 Roughing It in a Gold Mine, Jules W. L., Jr., 648  
 Rothschild, House of, 1023  
 Royalty, How Entertained, 107  
 Ruffs in Queen Elizabeth's Time, 329  
 Ruiz, Dr., Case of, 875, 898, 900, 1124  
   Dies in Prison, 473  
 Running the Blockade, 458

**Ruskin, Tenn., Co-operative Town, 1037**  
**Russia—**

- Buying Grain for India, 175
- Character and Stories of Czar, 132, 303
- Checking Japan in Philippines, 136
- Crafty Turkish Diplomacy, 199
- Czar Gives Freedom to Press, 308
- Czar's Kindness to Students, 228
- Czar's Liberal Policy, 1306
- Great Canal, 1305
- Nihilists, 134, 228
- Russiaks, 235
- Siberia, 133

**Salt on Car-Tracks, 261, 336**

**Sandy Hook, 1037**

**Sanguily, Gen. Julio, 537, 658, 699**

**Sanitary Code, 1037**

**School, Cambridge Manual Training,  
Fire Drill, 744**

**School for Truants, 918**

**Schoolship *St. Mary's*, 857**

**Schubert's Centennial, M. Bouchier  
Sanford, 435**

**Seals—**

- Adjustment of Claims, 976
- Branding of, 579, 1090
- Conference Agreed to, 1205
- Conference Asked for, 1089
- England Refuses to Attend Conference, 1371, 1437, 1465
- Fisheries, Story of, 734
- Herd Decreasing, 1256, 1474
- Mr. Sherman's Letter, 1115
- Treaty with Russia and Japan, 1526, 1557

**Where Found, 895**

**See-Yupe, Story of, 598**

**Selkirk, Alexander, Story of, 243**

**Senator Hoar's Petition for the Birds,  
1110**

**Sham Fight, 1449**

**Sharp, Jacob, 200**

**Sheep War in the West, 287**

**Ships, Curious Kinds of, 1037**

**Mr. Knapp's Roller, 1475**

**New Ocean Liner, 1418**

**Shooting Stars, 13**

**Siam—**

- Cheek's Teakwood Claim, 395, 533
- Kellett Case Settled, 1443
- King of, 1057
- Our Consul Wounded at Bangkok, 395, 423
- Ready to Make Amends, 532

**Siamese Invade Indo-China, 1056**

**Siberia—**

- American Sailors Released, 945
- Americans Imprisoned in, 376
- Change in Prison System, 1306
- Czar's New Rule about Exiles, 744

**Single Tax, 1511**

**Slavery Abolished in Zanzibar, 911**

**Snow Melter, 177**

**Soudan—**

- About Caravans, 1224
- Barber Surrenders to British, 1300
- Capture of Town of Abu Hamed, 1223
- Description of, 1069
- English Advancing, 1404, 1492
- Expedition to Recover Dongola, 1069
- General Gordon, 1071, 1359
- Hostilities Suspended, 1644
- Railway Across Desert, 1405
- Rumors of Peace, 1358
- The Mahdi, 1070

**South Pole, 313, 1228**

**Spain—**

- Alliance with Japan, 1096
- Almaden Quicksilver Mines and Loan, 1023
- Appeals to Powers, 879
- Assassination of Canovas, 1189
- Canovas Resigns, 927
- Carlits Rising, 1002, 1246
- Court Goes into Mourning for Canovas, 1245
- Dissensions in Cortes, 925
- Duke of Tetuan Boxes Senator's Ears, 927
- General Azcarraga Chosen Prime Minister, 1246
- General Woodford's Mission, 1126, 1273, 1348
- Glance at Spain's History Since 1868, 1193

## Spain—

- Minister of Finance Excommunicated, 1888, 1436
- Ministry Resigns, 1886
- New Ministry, 1899
- New Premier, 1246
- Officer Inspects our Forts, 1328
- On Message, 1664, 1689
- Protest Against Sending Troops to Cuba, 1097
- Queen Appeals to Don Carlos, 1849
- Queen Considering How to End War, 1450
- Queen Signs Decree for Home Rule, 1688
- Reply to Woodford, 1487
- Rothschild, House of, 1028
- Story of Canovas' Career, 1198
- Trouble over Cuban Tariff, 1606
- Sport, New, 1039
- St. Bernard Monastery Partly Destroyed by Avalanche, 535
- St. Elias, Mount, Expedition to, 948, 1278, 1282
- St. Swithin's Day Legend, 1168
- Stars and Stripes, 37
- Steinway, William, 189
- Stowe, Mrs. Harriet Beecher, Monument to, 1015
- Strategic Points, by Mary P. Parmele, 236
- Strike—
  - Coal-Miners, 1091, 1182, 1196, 1260
  - Cotton Strikes, 1528, 1556
  - Croton Valley Dam, 1499
  - Decision Against Labor Union, 1503
  - End of Coal Strike, 1515
  - In Hamburg, 127, 271, 399
  - Miners Shot at Hazleton, 1811
  - New York Cab Company, 288
  - Of Engineers, 1469, 1502, 1503
  - Sheriffs and Deputies Arrested, 1866, 1588
  - Tailors, 886, 933, 1009
  - Women Fight Troops, 1864
- Sugar, Maple, Making of, 603
- Sultan of Turkey Described, 1441
- Sun Spots, 1677

## Supplements—

- Monroe Doctrine, by Mary P. Parmele, to follow page 210
- President's Message, to follow page 124
- Sweden, King Oscar of, 364
- Swimming the English Channel, 1171
- Tailors' Strike, 886, 933, 1009
- Tariff Bill, 35, 585, 587, 675, 705, 800
  - Anti-Trust Clause, 1084
  - Conference Called, 1068
  - Europe Opposed to, 880
  - Failure of Dingley Bill, 1668
  - Passed by Senate, 1063
  - Sugar Tariff as Regards Hawaii, 904
  - Troubles of New Law, 1248
  - Work of Conference Accomplished and Bill Passed, 1101
- Tea-Biscuit, Sylvia's, 64
- Tel-el-Amarna, 890
- Telescope, Yerkes, 14, 1064
- Tenements in Mott Street, 373
- Tennessee Exposition, 785
- Terminal Bud, 46, 346
- Texas, Accident to the, 73
  - Microbes in, 129
  - Reported Seaworthy, 222
- Thanksgiving Day, 44
- Theatre Hats Forbidden, 339
- Third-Rail System, 917
- Three Friends, 153, 250, 273, 338, 371
- Tonnage Tax, 191
- Torpedo-boat *Holland*, 858, 1066
- Torpedo Drill, 1009
- Transvaal—
  - Boers Make Treaty with Orange Free States, 669
  - Committee Sends Two Reports, 1098
  - Condemnation of Cecil Rhodes, 1190
  - Dr. Jameson to be in Legislature, 1443
  - England Leases Delagoa Bay, 703
  - England's Rights in, 1305
  - History of Jameson's Raid, 513
  - Inquiry into Raid, 667
  - Kruger's Message, 570
  - Oom Paul III, 1420
  - Talk of Settlement, 908
  - Tries to Purchase Delagoa Bay, 1051

**Transvaal—**

- Unpleasant Rumors, 965
- War Feared, 669

**Treasury Walls Bulging with Money, 854**

- What Paper Money Represents, 855

**Treaties—**

- Arbitration, 898, 448, 808
- Arbitration with England, 1000
- Clayton-Bulwer, 449
- England Ends Commercial, with Germany and Belgium, 1177
- Hawaiian Annexation, 963
- Hawaiian Approved, 1102
- Hawaiian, Particulars of, 1004
- Venezuelan, 968

**Treaty with England, 4**

- How Signed, 302
- Of Stockholm in 1855, 364
- Queen's Speech on, 331
- Referred to Committee on Foreign Relations, 329

**Trial by Jury, 106**

**Trip Down a Lumber Flume, 574**

**Trocha, 6**

**Truant School, 918**

**Trusts—**

- A History of, 453
- Anti-Trust Clause in Tariff Bill, 1084
- Anti-Trust Law Unconstitutional, 1211
- Coal Trust, 883
- Havemeyer Tried, 883, 911
- Labor Trust, 572
- Lexow Bill Against, 571
- Mr. Chapman Imprisoned for Contempt, 795, 851
- Tobacco Trust Trial, 1060

**Turkey—**

- Armenian Outrage in Constantinople, 1225
- Armistice Broken, 957
- Armistice Granted, 876
- Attitude to Armenians, 21
- Characteristics of Turkish Soldiers, 426
- Demands Greek Rifles, 1531
- Europe Bringing Sultan to-Terms, 170, 198

**Turkey—**

- Europe Decides on Reforms, 391
- Fresh Troubles Feared, 1653
- Home Rule Demanded for Crete, 1604
- New Slaughter of Armenians, 637
- Oriental Railroad, 1800
- Peace Negotiations, 900, 932, 955, 956, 957, 1001, 1021, 1045, 1046, 1073, 1093, 1130, 1164, 1216, 1238, 1271
- Revolt in Albania, 1631
- Russia's Demands, 1603, 1631
- Sultan Described, 1441
- Sultan Objects to Governor of Crete, 1525
- Sultan Promises Armenian Reforms, 51
- Sultan's Reforms in Armenia, 1319
- Terrified by Highland Regiment, 663
- Troubles with Greece over Crete, 424
- Turkish Editors Fined, 1216
- Willing to Obey the Powers, 563

**Uitlanders, 514**

- Ultimatum of the Powers, 324
- Umpire, King Oscar of Sweden, 364
- Uncle Sam's Liberality, 162
- Universal Postal Union, 860
- Uruguay, Insurrection in, 597
- Argentina Joins in, 1014
- Rebel Gains, 1135

**Vaccination and Inoculation, 1461**

**Van Wyck Mayor, 1509**

**Vanderbilt, Consuelo, Duchess of Marlborough, 105**

**Venezuela—**

- Arbitration, 397
- Arbitration Treaty with, 196
- Difficulty Arranged, 53
- Final Arrangements for Arbitration, 397
- Friendly Once More with England, 305
- Venice, An American, 802
- Victoria Cross, 1571
- Victoria, Queen, Anecdote of, 803
- Volcano in Mexico, 974
- Voyage of a Bottle, 317

- Waterbury, Our Excursion to, H. H.      Wreck of the *Aden*, 1698  
     Rogers, Jr., 665  
 Water-tight Compartments, 75  
 West Point Cannon Stolen, 888, 910  
 Westminster Hall, 513  
 Weyler—  
     Cruel Treatment of Women, 490  
     Declares Cuba Pacified, 369  
     Shameful Methods of Warfare, 419  
     Spain Angry with, 370  
 Whale Caught at Amagansett, 468  
     Right, 314  
 Whalers Ice-bound, 1558  
 Wheat, Corner in, 35  
     Rise of, 1281  
 Wilhelmina, Young Queen of Holland,  
     1866  
     X Rays—  
         Blind Made to See with, 83  
         Heart-Beats Visible, 17  
         In Custom-House, 1101  
         In Post-Office, 1183  
     Yellow Fever in South, 1461  
     Yerkes Telescope, 14, 1064  
     Zanzibar, Slavery Abolished, 911  
     Zertuccha Betrays Maseo, 144  
     Zoological Gardens of New York City,  
         646  
         Described, 1617

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Part I., pages 1 to 388; Part II., pages 389 to 868; Part III., pages  
 869 to 1290; Part IV., pages 1291 to 1700.

# THE GREAT ROUND WORLD



AND WHAT IS GOING ON IN IT.

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**T**HE latest news from India is of a most encouraging nature.

It is supposed that the announcement made by the British Government that they mean to send a strong force to punish the rebellious tribes has had a good effect.

The Afridis are reported to have held a council of war, and have decided to return to their homes and gather in their harvests. The head men of the tribe are said to be responsible for this decision, because they made a strong stand against the continuation of the war.

It is probable that the reason of their return to their homes is not altogether because of their harvests, but that other tribes which had agreed to join in the uprising have become alarmed at the action of the British, and, fearful lest they too may come in for punishment, have refused to take any part in the border war.

Haddah Mullah, the mad priest who is accused of having incited the tribes to rebel in the first instance,

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has also given in. It is said that he has dispersed his followers of the Swati tribe, and that they have returned to their homes.

The Mullah had been gathering forces together for an attack on Peshawar, a strong British fort. To make his attempt successful he needed more men than he had under his command; he therefore ordered a tribe called the Mohmands to join him, and marched toward Peshawar, expecting to meet them on the way.

When he and his followers arrived at the meeting-place, he found to his dismay that instead of the host of warriors he had expected, there was only a messenger from the chief of the Mohmands, who told him in very plain terms that they would have nothing to do with either the revolt or the attack on Peshawar.

On hearing this it is said that the Mullah was so discouraged that he refused to lead the Swatis any more, and ordered his followers to go back to their homes.

If this report be indeed true, the worst of the rebellion is undoubtedly over, for the Haddah Mullah was the most dangerous enemy the British had to fear in the frontier war. By preying upon the superstitions of the tribe he had obtained such an influence over them that they regarded him as a prophet and obeyed his slightest word.

To make them fight bravely he distributed rice that had been colored pink among his followers on the eve of a battle, and assured them that all who carried it would pass through the fiercest battle without a wound or scratch.

On one occasion when the rice had been handed

round from man to man it was found after the fight was over that the Mullah's hand was very badly cut. His followers began to murmur, and wonder how the giver of this charmed rice could himself be wounded in battle. The Mullah was, however, smart enough to invent a story about having seized a bayonet and purposely cut himself. His simple followers believed him, and continued to use the wonderful rice.

The withdrawal of this crafty priest from active opposition will be a great assistance to the British cause, which has also been greatly strengthened during the last few days by the friendly attitude of the Ameer of Afghanistan.

We told you how the British suspected that this ruler had helped to stir up the rebellion; at one time it was decided to send him another letter, calling him sharply to account for his double dealing.

Before any such action could be taken, news was brought that the Ameer had caused the arrest of forty important tribesmen, who were supposed to have assisted the mad Mullah in rousing the people against the British.

This action has had such an excellent effect on the tribes that many people suppose Great Britain's frontier war is over.

The English have still a great deal to do on the borders of Afghanistan. For the sake of their future power in India they dare not let the natives think they can rebel against England without being severely punished. Whether the revolt is really over or not, a force will have to be sent against the rebellious tribes to teach them proper respect for British power.





**G**ENERAL WOODFORD has arrived safely in Spain, and is to be presented to the Queen Regent in a few days.

He has, in the mean while, met the Duke of Tetuan, and has been very pleasantly received.

A great sensation has, however, been caused in Havana by the publication of a letter from General Azcarraga, the present Spanish Prime Minister. In this letter the minister says that the Spanish Government will not listen to any demands from the United States, that no one in Spain thinks our country has any right to interfere in the Cuban question, and that rather than submit to American dictation, Spain is prepared to declare war.

In the letter it is also said that if it becomes necessary to declare war, Spain is confident that she will have the support of the nations of Europe. It is argued that if we succeed in freeing Cuba we will be certain to try and get Canada and Jamaica away from England, and the French possessions from their mother country.

The General asserts that if the United States succeeds in freeing Cuba, European rule in the New World will soon cease to exist.

Finally, he says that if General Woodford's mission is after all merely to claim damages from Spain, he will be listened to with the utmost politeness, and then informed that Spain also has her claims against America. But if General Woodford persists in entering on the subject of the Cuban war, he will be told that Spain does not admit the right of the United States to interfere in her private affairs, and the am-

bassador will be politely but firmly requested to mind his own business.

Every one is most anxious to learn just what General Woodford's mission is, and how Spain will receive it.

In the mean while many people are wondering why Spain has suddenly become so averse to parting with her colonies. Many times in the last century she has ceded and sold them, and it seems strange that she should be unwilling to let Cuba purchase her freedom when it is the easiest way out of the present difficulty.

At one time Spain had vast possessions in the New World. Louisiana, Florida, Mexico, the Central American States, Venezuela, Colombia, Ecuador, Bolivia, Peru, Chile, Paraguay, Uruguay, and the Argentine Republic were all under the rule of Spain.

One by one these countries have thrown off the Spanish yoke; Cuba is only following in their footsteps, and yet while the mother country has been content to receive valuable considerations for her other provinces, she declares that to surrender Cuba would be to forfeit her honor.

Affairs in Madrid are approaching a crisis. It is rumored that within two weeks General Azcarraga will cease to be Prime Minister, and that Señor Sagasta will be called to take command of the affairs of State. Sagasta, as we have told you, has very broad views about Cuba, and wishes for nothing so much as peace with the unhappy little island.

The affairs of the election in Cuba are progressing quietly.

The election should have taken place on September

1st, but the bad roads made travelling so difficult that some of the most important members of the Assembly were unable to get to the meeting, and so the business of electing a President has had to be postponed for a few days.

The Cubans say that the first work of the new administration must be to establish a government for *peace*. Up to the present time their thoughts have all been directed toward preserving the army in the field, and making it possible to continue the war.

The rebellion has now such a strong hold in the eastern part of the island that it is necessary to provide laws for the welfare of those who are living under the flag of free Cuba, which, as we have told you before, now floats over Santiago de Cuba.

The Government has already established factories and workshops to furnish supplies for the army, and about five thousand persons are employed in them.

There are tanneries where the skins of beasts are made into leather; shoe, saddle, harness, gunpowder, and dynamite factories, and workshops for repairing arms and reloading gun-cartridges.

A newspaper man who says he has been through these establishments states that while they are somewhat old-fashioned in their methods, owing to the impossibility of obtaining the newest machinery, the work they turn out is excellent.

The Cuban Government is also providing for the education of its subjects. Free schools are being established wherever it is safe to do so, and every effort is being made to render the people who acknowledge the rule of the young republic happy and law-abiding.

One of the candidates for the Presidency is Gen. Bartolome Maso, who holds the office of Vice-President under the present administration.

Señor Maso is a dear friend and close companion of President Cisneros; so warm is this friendship, indeed, that Cisneros has offered to withdraw from the candidacy in favor of Maso, and Maso has refused to let him do so, declaring that he can serve the republic just as well whether he is President or private citizen.

Maso is one of the soldiers who fought in the revolt ten years ago. He was one of the first to take up arms against Spain on the present occasion. You must not confound him with Maceo, the murdered general. This man is Bartolome Maso, the dead general was Antonio Maceo.

Señor Maso is often lovingly referred to by the Cubans as the father of the revolution.

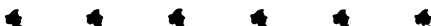
Consul-General Lee has returned from Cuba. He has been ill for some months, and has obtained a few weeks' leave of absence in which to regain his strength. There are reports that he is not to return to Cuba, but that another Consul-General is to be appointed in his place. These rumors are not generally credited.

From the Philippine Islands the news comes that the natives intend to prolong the war until Spain's money is exhausted, and then force her to agree to their demands.

The main fighting in this insurrection has taken place on the island of Luzon. This island has been visited by a terrible disaster. One of its volcanic mountains has suddenly burst into activity, and

thrown out streams of lava in such volume that they have travelled over twenty miles of country until they reached the sea.

It is said that several villages have been destroyed by the lava flow, and about five hundred persons killed.



**T**HERE is once more a prospect of a settlement of the Greek question.

After the rejection of Lord Salisbury's plan, about which we told you last week, it seemed as if matters would again be brought to a standstill. England refused to consent to any plan that did not include the withdrawal of Turkish troops from Thessaly, and Germany would not listen to any arrangement that did not include the full control of the Greek Treasury.

The Russian Minister, fearing another long delay, appealed to England, and demanded that she should agree to Germany's plan, or propose some other that would be agreeable to all the parties concerned.

Lord Salisbury therefore made a new proposal to this effect. The Powers should take control of the revenues set aside by Greece for the payment of the war debt to Turkey, and that yet another sum should be handed over to the Powers to secure the payment of her other debts.

The proposal also stated that when Greece had put the funds into the hands of the Powers, Turkey was immediately to recall her troops from Thessaly.

The ambassadors all agreed to accept this plan, which, in truth, gave both Germany and England the points they desired. After the foreign Ministers had

decided to accept it, it was shown informally to Tewfik Pasha.

This official also appeared satisfied with the arrangements, and gave the ambassadors to understand that when it was formally presented to him he would be able to accept it in the name of the Sultan.

It is therefore expected that the details of the peace treaty will be settled in a very few days.

Greece, the country most interested in this settlement, is the party least satisfied with the arrangement.

It is felt in Athens that the terms of the peace are very hard ones. The frontier question has been so settled that Greece is powerless to defend herself against the Turks if they should declare war on her again. The mountain passes and the important places in the mountain ranges will be in the hands of the Turks, and Greece will lie at the foot of the hills, a ready prey to any army that may descend on her from the heights.

In addition to this, she has to pay a heavy war indemnity, and to do so must turn over the control of her revenue to foreigners.

It will take many years before Greece can recover from this blow.

The blockade of Crete is to be brought to an end, or "raised" as it is called.

The Cretans having accepted the Home Rule offered them by the Powers, there is no longer any need for the allied fleets to remain there, and therefore the war-ships are to leave the island.

It is difficult to see what good they have accomplished. When Djavad Pasha arrived at the island,

giving himself all the airs of a new Turkish governor, the Cretans accepted Home Rule in the belief that the Powers would protect them from the Turks.

Not being wily diplomatists, they did not insert any clause about the withdrawal of Turkish troops from the island, and therefore the Powers do not feel bound to demand this of Turkey, and are taking away the only protection the Cretans had, and are leaving them just as much at the mercy of the Turks as they were before Greece tried to go to their rescue.

It seems a shabby piece of business on the part of the Powers, and one they will have hard work to justify even to themselves.

The admirals have, it is true, requested Djavad Pasha to order all the Turks in the island disarmed with the exception of the Turkish soldiers. If he refuses they threaten to ask for his recall, but this is a very poor conclusion after all the fuss that has been made, and the trouble the interference of the Powers has caused.



**T**HERE is good news from the Soudan.

After the British had taken the town of Abu Hamed, about which we told you a short while since, they continued to advance up the Nile toward the next important town that lay in their route to Khar-toum.

This town was Berber.

It was expected that the Mahdists would make a fierce resistance at this place, and the British troops were prepared for severe fighting.

What was their surprise on reaching Berber to

find that the Mahdists had fled before them, and were encamped at the city of Matammeh, where they intended to make a stand against the invading army.

Berber had been left in the hands of a few Sudanese who were friendly to the English, and willingly permitted them to take possession of the town.

This city is only about two hundred miles from Khartoum, and no place of importance now lies in the way of the British advance on Khartoum, the Mahdist stronghold.



**A** VERY interesting movement is on foot to secure the return of the Jews to Palestine.

We are all familiar with the beautiful story of Moses, and how he led the Jewish people out of their captivity in Egypt into the promised land of Palestine.

We can follow out the history of the kingdom of Israel through its years of prosperity under David and Solomon; we can read how the Jews again became a conquered people, and fell under the rule of the Assyrians, the Babylonians, the Persians, and how under the leadership of Maccabeus they once more became a nation, only to fall into the hands of the Romans.

History tells us how they revolted again and again under the Roman rule, and how at last, in the year 135 A.D., Jerusalem was taken by the Roman Emperor, and the Jews, driven from their country, ceased to be a nation, and were scattered over the face of the earth.

From the year 135 Palestine remained in the hands



of the Romans, and when they became converted to Christianity this land was regarded by them with great veneration. Bethlehem of Judea, where Jesus Christ was born, is in Palestine, and Jerusalem, where He suffered death on the cross, was the capital of Judea.

In the sixth century Palestine fell into the hands of the Mohammedans, and it was to rescue the Holy City from the hands of unbelievers that the Christians of Europe first undertook those long and terrible wars which are known in history as the Crusades.

The Christians finally conquered Jerusalem, and established a Christian kingdom there which lasted for eighty years, when the celebrated Saladin, Sultan of Egypt and Syria, reconquered the Holy City.

Since that time Palestine has been in the hands of the Mohammedans, and in the year 1517 it was finally added to the Turkish Empire.

The present idea of the Jewish people is to purchase Palestine from the Sultan of Turkey and resettle the Hebrews there.

A Hebrew Congress has just been held in Basle, Switzerland, for the purpose of discussing this matter.

On the second day of the Congress a resolution was offered that a home be created in Palestine for the Jewish people, and that the consent and assistance of the Powers be asked to the plan.

The resolution was instantly adopted, amid the greatest excitement and enthusiasm.

Little more business was done that day. The people present were so excited with the hope of becoming

a nation once more that they could not bring their minds to consider any less important subject.

The next day, however, the Congress settled itself to a business-like consideration of the plan. It was resolved to treat with the Sultan of Turkey for the purchase of Palestine, and a committee was formed to collect funds for that object, it being considered desirable to raise fifty million dollars as speedily as possible.

The idea of recolonizing Palestine is not a new one. In 1840 the generous Sir Moses Montefiore endeavored to start the scheme. Since his day several other attempts have been made.

In 1878 some Jews in Jerusalem founded the first colony there, and through the assistance of Baron Edmond de Rothschild, and of a Jewish society in Paris, there are already five thousand Hebrews settled in Palestine. They have a tract of land about six square miles in extent, and have it in excellent cultivation, producing among other things an excellent vintage of Bordeaux, which is a high grade of claret.

The present plan originated with Dr. Theodor Herzl of Vienna. He is a literary man whose work is well known in Austria, and he is considered well fitted to be the leader of this great movement.

Dr. Herzl says that he does not think there will be much difficulty in making terms with the Sultan.

He visited Constantinople last year, and had two long conversations with the Grand Vizier on the subject. While this minister did not answer Yes or No to his project, Dr. Herzl says that he can but feel that the Sultan was favorably impressed by it, as he sent him a decoration.

A "decoration" is a badge or emblem, such as a cross, star, flower, or the like, which is bestowed by a sovereign as a special mark of favor or in recognition of some great service. Medals received for bravery on the field of battle are decorations.

Some of these decorations, or orders, as they are also called, are extremely beautiful in workmanship and design. Each country has its own special orders, a certain few of which are only bestowed on royalty, or persons of very high rank.

Decorations are intended to be worn on the left breast. To attach them to the clothing they are threaded on a ribbon which varies in color and design for every order. In Europe, medals and orders are only worn on full-dress occasions, but for ordinary use the proud owners of these marks of distinction will wear a small strip of ribbon belonging to the order.

These favors are not, as a rule, lightly bestowed, and the possessors of the important European orders are rightfully proud of them.

The decorating of Dr. Herzl may have been nothing more than amiability on the part of the Sultan, but it certainly showed that his Majesty was not displeased with the doctor's mission.

The leaders of this new movement are not, however, pinning all their faith on the Sultan.

If it becomes impossible to secure Palestine they will treat for a tract of land in some healthy part of South America.

The land once secured, it is the intention to send a number of the poorer Jews out to it.

These men are to be drawn from the laboring

classes, and it is to be their work to lay out streets, build bridges and railroads, etc., and generally prepare the way for those who are to follow.

It is not intended to make any class distinctions of rich or poor, or to send out a class of rich persons to profit by the work done for them by their less fortunate brothers. The leaders of the movement will lay out extensive works in the various kinds of building that we have mentioned, and it is expected that the business these works will create will attract settlers to the new country, who will start up foundries and factories. It is the intention to furnish the colony with all the latest improvements and inventions, and it is but reasonable to suppose that the new land will soon become an important centre of industry.

The promoters of the scheme look for great assistance from England, and have approached Lord Salisbury in the hope of gaining his friendship.

Europe would of course have a great deal to say about the establishment of an enlightened and progressive race on the borders of the Red Sea, and the new nation could not be established without the consent of the Powers.



**R**USSIA is about building a new canal, which, when finished, will be one of the greatest works ever undertaken.

It is to connect the Baltic Sea with the Black Sea, and is to be one thousand miles in length.

It is to start from Riga on the Baltic, and run to Kherson at the mouth of the Dneiper River, where that river empties itself into the Black Sea.

The advantages of this canal will be very great.

At the present time a vessel voyaging from the Baltic to the Black Sea has to go all round Europe before it reaches its destination. Take your map and follow out the course a ship must take. It must skirt Denmark and pass into the North Sea, then go through the Straits of Dover, down the coast of France, across the Bay of Biscay, and down the coast of Portugal until the Straits of Gibraltar are reached. Here the vessel must pass into the beautiful Mediterranean Sea, and follow it along through the Grecian Archipelago, through the Dardanelles into the Sea of Marmora, and passing through the Bosphorus, it at last finds itself in the Black Sea.

The time required to make such a long voyage is a great loss to merchants, and the vessel has to pass through so many narrow straits and past so many strategic points that the voyage could hardly be undertaken if Russia were at war with any foreign nation.

The canal is to be 213 feet wide at the surface, 115 feet at the base, and to have a depth of 27 feet.

It should, therefore, be a very fine canal.

Germany and the United States are both very pleased about this great work, for both nations see in it an opportunity to sell their iron and steel manufactures.

The Czar of Russia has issued an order that there is to be no more exiling to Siberia except for certain very serious crimes.

Instead, large prisons are to be built in Central Russia for the political criminals. The change is to go into effect in one year's time, when it is supposed that the new prisons will be in readiness.

It seems almost too good to be true that the terrors of Siberian exile are to be abolished. To most of the unfortunate prisoners who were interviewed by Mr. George Kennan when he visited the Siberian convict settlements, even the horrors of the exile were as nothing compared to the awful journey on foot across the desolate steppes of Russia.

All this will soon be at an end, and the nearness of the prisons to civilization will perhaps remove some of the abuses and ill-treatment of the prisoners now practised in the far-away Siberian prisons.

If the young Czar Nicholas continues his kindly and humane methods of government it is likely that he will soon need very few political prisons.

He has shown much kindness and clemency to his people since he came to the throne, and there is little doubt that his subjects will soon learn to love him and trust him in return.



THE relations between the Transvaal and England are again being brought prominently before the world.

Early in the spring, when it was rumored that Germany was taking too friendly an interest in the affairs of the Transvaal, Mr. Chamberlain, the Colonial Secretary of England, sent a very stormy letter to the Boers, saying that England insisted that the Transvaal should not make any foreign alliances without her consent, and that the treaty between the Transvaal and Great Britain, which is known as the "London Treaty," must be very closely observed.

To this the Boer Government replied that it would

be glad to arbitrate that point as well as the amount of the payment to be made for the Jameson raid; and the various other points on which the two governments were at issue.

Soon after this Dr. Leyds, President Krüger's confidential agent, arrived in England, and had a conference with Mr. Chamberlain. They appeared to come to satisfactory understanding, and there was every prospect of a peaceful settlement to the dispute.

Some weeks after this conversation with Dr. Leyds, Mr. Chamberlain was asked by the House of Commons whether he had consented to arbitrate with the Transvaal.

Mr. Chamberlain answered that some points would certainly be submitted to arbitration, but the question of the Transvaal's right to allow a foreign country to befriend her could not be so treated, because it was expressly stated in the London convention that England had sovereign rights in the Transvaal, and could therefore insist on her wishes being carried out.

When the news of Mr. Chamberlain's speech reached Pretoria, the capital of the Transvaal, there was great indignation among the Boers. The matter was debated by the Volksraad or Parliament, and several members declared that Great Britain must be shown that she no longer had any sovereign rights in the Transvaal.

Meetings were held denouncing Mr. Chamberlain's remarks, and finally President Krüger delivered a speech before the Volksraad which caused considerable excitement, as its meaning was an open defiance of England.

In this speech President Krüger stated that the Boers were perfectly willing to abide by the London convention, but he stated emphatically that the convention did not contain a word about the sovereign rights of England, and since it had been made, all such rights had ceased to exist.

The London convention was made in 1884.

In 1881, after the British forces had been beaten by the Boers, a treaty was made by which peace was restored, and the Transvaal recognized as a semi-independent republic, under the sovereignty of England.

In this treaty it was understood that the Boers would have freedom of government as far as their home affairs went, but that no friendships or alliances could be made with foreign powers. The British Government reserved for itself the right of managing the foreign affairs of the Transvaal.

This was in 1881.

In 1884 a new agreement was entered into which expressly stated that England no longer wanted these rights, and that the Transvaal was free to govern the country without interference, and to manage its own foreign affairs as it pleased. One right only did England demand, and that was that the Transvaal should not make any treaty with a foreign country without the approval of the Queen.

It stated that the Transvaal Government must send her Majesty a copy of any treaty it desired to make, and that if England notified the Boers within six months that the proposed treaty interfered with her rights in South Africa, it must be abandoned. Nothing was said in this agreement which prevented the



Transvaal from having friendly dealings with foreign powers.

Mr. Chamberlain seems to have become confused about the contents of the London convention of 1884, and to have got it mixed with the treaty of 1881. The brave old President of the Transvaal has, however, determined to refresh his memory.

In his speech before the Volksraad he stated grimly that the Boers would oppose to the last any attempt on the part of England to enforce her fancied rights, and having declared himself emphatically for war, he concluded with one of his quaint, pious remarks. He said the Boers wished to preserve peaceful and friendly relations with the whole world, because wherever love dwelt the blessing of God was sure to follow.

President Krüger's defiance was regarded by the British Government as mere speech-making. The Government refused to believe that the old man wished his words to be taken seriously, and so passed the whole affair over as unworthy of notice.

Mr. Chamberlain has been instructed to enforce Great Britain's sovereign rights in the Transvaal, and notwithstanding the fact that several of the London newspapers are calling attention to the treaty of 1884, he is determined to insist on these rights.

It was rumored some time ago that as soon as the Greek troubles were out of the way, Germany, France, and Russia would take up the Transvaal question.

This may perhaps be the reason why the Boer President so bravely defies the British Government, and if Mr. Chamberlain tries to force the Transvaal

to submit, he may find that he has to reckon with these three powerful countries as well as the handful of Dutchmen in the South African Republic.



**A** TERRIBLE tragedy has occurred in Pennsylvania at a place called Hazleton, about twenty-five miles from Wilkesbarre.

Some miners were shot and killed by order of the sheriff of the county.

These miners were out on strike, their strike, however, not being in any way connected with the great coal strike of which we have told you in previous numbers.

These men were dissatisfied because an extra two-hours' work was forced upon them every day without extra pay.

Some mules which had formerly been stationed in another colliery were changed over to the one at which these men were employed, and the care of these animals occupied the drivers an extra hour morning and night, which the miners resented. They therefore struck work.

Two of the drivers did not wish to join in the strike, and the superintendent, seeing this, did his best to persuade all the men to go to work. Upon this the strikers became angry, and bitter words and hard feeling resulted.

Thinking themselves badly used, the men resolved to try and make the strike general in the neighborhood, and began marching from colliery to colliery, urging the men at work to lay down their picks and join them.

The strikers have been very orderly, and have made no disturbance of any kind, but as they were principally foreigners who are ignorant of our laws and customs, it was thought best to have men on hand ready to check them if they attempted any lawless act. The sheriff of Luzerne County, in which Hazleton is situated, was therefore notified to be on the alert, and in his turn sent word to his deputies to be ready for action.

The sheriff of a county is a very important officer. It is his duty to see that law and order are preserved within the limits of his county, that the penalties ordered by the judges are carried out, and to suppress all riots and uprisings in his district.

To assist him in this work he has the right to call on as many citizens as he needs for the business in hand. These men he binds by an oath to aid him in the discharge of his duty and to help him to preserve the peace. They compose what is known as the sheriff's posse, and are a body of men who accompany him and help him to do his duty.

Sheriff Martin, of Luzerne County, called out about ninety deputies for his posse, and had them in the vicinity of Hazleton for over a week before the shooting occurred.

On the day of the tragedy a body of the strikers had determined to march to Lattimer, a village not very far away from Hazleton. They desired to persuade the miners there to join their ranks, and started out about two hundred and fifty strong, marching in a peaceable and orderly manner along the road. None of them were armed, and none showed the slightest desire for violence or riot.

They had arrived within a few hundred yards of their destination when their road was blocked by the sheriff and his posse.

Advancing toward them, the sheriff ordered them to go back to their homes, telling them that they were creating a disturbance and were acting in defiance of the law.

Most of the strikers were foreigners, and, failing to understand what the sheriff said, the foremost men crowded round him, trying to prove to him that they were only parading, and had a perfect right to march through the streets if they only remained peaceful and orderly.

Unfortunately the sheriff could not make out what they meant, and supposed they were defying him.

He therefore proceeded to read them the Riot Act.

This is an act which in the name of the commonwealth orders the persons assembled to disperse and go to their homes.

If the rioters fail to obey they are liable to imprisonment and punishment according to the laws of the State, and the sheriff or person authorized to read the Riot Act is bound to arrest all persons who linger around after the act has been read to them.

When a riot has assumed such a serious character that armed men have had to be called out to subdue it, the Riot Act is generally read, and then the soldiers or sheriff's deputies charge the mob, being careful not to fire on them or wound them unless necessary in self-defence or in performance of their duty.

In this instance the sheriff utterly misunderstood the rioters, and as they crowded around him, trying

to make out what it was that he was reading to them, he lost his self-control, and imagining the men were defying and threatening him, ordered his posse to fire.

It was a frightful affair. Ninety well-armed men firing into a crowd of defenceless laborers. Twenty-three strikers were killed, thirty-six seriously wounded, and about forty more injured.

As you may suppose, our whole country is mourning over this catastrophe.

It would seem difficult to find where the real blame lies. The sheriff thought he was doing his duty, his posse but obeyed his orders, and the poor sacrificed miners had no idea what the sheriff was reading to them, nor any intention of offering violence.

The whole neighborhood became so excited over the affray that the Governor of Pennsylvania immediately ordered some of the state troops to Hazleton to prevent further trouble.

The sheriff and his posse are to be arrested and tried for killing the strikers.

The Mayor of Hazleton declares that the shooting of the miners cannot be excused; that if the rioters refused to go home after the Riot Act had been read to them, the sheriff should have ordered his deputies to fire over the heads of the mob; and then, if they still continued rebellious, it was time to think about punishing them.

The Riot Act states that persons lingering one hour after the act has been read shall be seized and arrested, and those who arrest them shall not be held liable for any injuries the rioters may receive; but this is only after an hour has elapsed. According to the accounts that have reached us, the sheriff or-

dered his men to fire immediately after the reading of the act.

The great coal strike is, however, at an end.

A fresh agreement has been offered, which both miners and owners have decided to accept.

By it the men go to work at sixty-five cents per ton until January, when a new scale of wages is to be used. This scale will be settled by arbitration between this and January.

The masters and men are to meet in joint conference, and both sides promise to abide by the decision of the arbitrators.

It is said that Mr. de Armitt will not pay the sixty-five-cent rate, but will only give fifty-four cents till the new rate goes into effect in January. The leaders have determined to continue the strike in his mines if this report proves to be true, but in the other collieries the miners will go to work.

C. H. ROSENFELD.

## INVENTION AND DISCOVERY.

**BICYCLE-HOLDER.**—A clever invention comes to us from California. It is called a bicycle-holder, and is designed for carrying bicycles on street cars.

It is a simple device consisting of two hooks placed on an iron bar, from the centre of which another bar depends which is also furnished with a hook.

The wheel is hung on to the upper hooks, one of which passes through each wheel. The lower hook is so adjusted that the hind wheel rests in it, thus forming a perfect support for the machine.

It is possible to attach two bicycle-holders to the back of each car, and if it works as well as it is expected to do, will be a great convenience to wheelmen.



**ROAD MAP.**—This is also a boon to bicyclists. The map, instead of folding up to put in the pocket, is rolled on two small cylinders. With the map comes a nickeled wire attachment which fits over the ends of the cylinders and holds a portion of the map firmly extended.

In the centre of the wire holder is a loop which snaps on to the handle-bar of the wheel and enables the rider to carry his map stretched out before him ready for instant use.

As the rider proceeds farther on his journey he can twist the cylinders and unroll a fresh portion of

shi map. It is an excellent device, and one which can be adjusted to all bicycles.



**W**RIST-GUIDE FOR PIANOS.—This is an attachment which can be fixed to any piano, and is intended to show the learner just the right angle at which the wrist should be held.

Children seem naturally to be flabby-wristed when they are trying to learn to play, and to drop the wrists below the level of the keyboard seems to be the chief aim and object of every young pianist.

Years ago there were not so many inventions for making learning delightful to the young, and we distinctly remember the fierce battles which used to take place at each music lesson over this very wrist business.

As no wrist-guide had then been invented, necessity—which is the mother of invention, they say—taught our instructress to make one of her own. Hers was more simple than the present one, but probably even more effective. It consisted of a pair of sharp-pointed scissors which glistened ferociously under the learner's wrists, ready to give them a sharp reminder whenever they flagged and showed a disposition to droop.

The piano was not as popular an instrument in those days as it has since become.

This wrist-guide ought to save many tears and much vexation of spirit to both teacher and pupil.



## BOOKS RECEIVED.

**W**E have received from the publishers, Thompson, Brown & Co., Boston, a set of the Duntonian Vertical Writing-Books. This series is described by the publishers as follows:

"This is a distinctly new series of Vertical Writing-Books, having some special features of great teaching value. One of these is the specially made paper with water-marked direction lines which pertains only to this system, and by means of which a vertical hand can be much sooner acquired. These lines are not intended in any way as guide-lines to be carefully observed in writing the copy, but simply as a ready means of verifying the work and determining whether the writer is conforming to a practical vertical style or not."

## NOTICE.

**T**HE attention of readers is called to the advertisement opposite the first reading page of this number. This contest cannot fail to be pleasant work, for to read through carefully the poem of Evangeline is a treat in itself. We hope that many of our young friends will compete; and if the proper sort of interest is shown in this contest, others will follow it.

# THE GREAT ROUND WORLD



AND WHAT IS GOING ON IN IT.

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IT is said that the Sultan of Turkey has at last made up his mind to do something for the Armenians, and has ordered that a commission visit the villages that have suffered from the massacres, and make a careful note of the schools, churches, and monasteries which have been destroyed.

This Royal Commission is composed of two Musulmans, three Armenians, and one Greek.

It is to start immediately, and the Sultan has ordered that a careful note of all the damage done shall be taken, and a full report rendered to him. It is his intention to reconstruct every building that has been destroyed.

In addition to this, he intends to erect orphan asylums for the children whose parents were killed during the massacres.

If this report is really true it will greatly rejoice Europe as well as the unfortunate people it is intended to benefit, for the impossibility of making the Sultan do anything for the Armenians has been worrying the various European governments considerably.

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There is nothing new to tell about the peace negotiations.

England insists that the Turks shall leave Thessaly, and it seems as if the other Powers were willing to agree with her. The Sultan has thus far raised no new objections, and it looks as if peace would be concluded within a very short time.



THE Cubans are rejoicing over the news which we have to tell you this week.

They have won a great victory which is of the utmost importance to their cause.

Under the leadership of Gen. Calixto Garcia, the insurgents have taken Victoria de las Tunas, a large town in the province of Santiago de Cuba.

This town was considered one of the great Spanish strongholds in Eastern Cuba. At the beginning of the present revolution it was freshly fortified, and at the time of its capture was defended by seven forts, which were armed with first-class guns.

It was garrisoned by a force of three hundred soldiers, but after a fight which lasted three days, the commander surrendered.

The loss of this town was such a severe blow, that the moment the bad news reached Spain a Cabinet Council was called, to discuss the situation. It was decided that the Spanish cause must be upheld at all hazards, and that fresh troops must immediately be sent to Cuba, to strike some decisive blow which shall offset the triumph of the Cubans.

The capture of this town is of great value to the

Cubans for several reasons, one of which is that it breaks the strength of Spain in Eastern Cuba.

We have told you before that this part of the island is now known as Free Cuba, that the insurgent government controls it, and that there are no Spanish troops marching through it, ravaging it or laying it waste. What soldiers Spain still keeps in this part of the island are shut up in a few large and important towns.

These towns are, however, more of a burden than a profit to the Government, for the Spaniards dare not venture out into the surrounding country, the Cubans being too strong for them.

They are thus practically besieged; their supplies have to be sent to them from Havana, and they are entirely dependent on the main army for support.

For months past the great object of the Cuban troops in Eastern Cuba has been to waylay the baggage-trains carrying these supplies. Again and again they have been attacked, the guard slaughtered, and the provisions captured. The Cubans have begun to boast that such comforts as their army is now enjoying have been supplied to them through these forays on the enemy.

Bayamo, one of the towns that especially depended on the convoys, is in a state bordering on starvation, as the last three trains sent to her relief have been captured.

The Spaniards declare that a force of ten thousand men is necessary to take provisions to Bayamo in safety.

But it is not alone the importance of their victory which pleases the Cubans in the capture of Las Tunas.

Their great cause for rejoicing is that at this battle the Spaniards for the first time accorded them the rights of belligerents. That is to say, the Spaniards treated them as soldiers engaged in legitimate warfare, not as brigands and bandits.

The Spanish commander himself requested that the Cubans should consent to an exchange of prisoners.

That you may understand the importance of this request, you must remember that there are especial rules and laws which govern the conduct of a war, and from which no nation dares depart, unless it wishes to be branded as inhuman and savage.

One of these laws relates to the care of prisoners. Prisoners of war must not be treated like criminals, for they have done no wrong. The patriotism that makes a man willing to give his life for his country is a virtue, not a crime, and therefore prisoners of war must always be treated as honorable men. Nothing should be done to them but to keep them in confinement, and prevent them from fighting.

As every prisoner captured weakens the fighting force of the enemy, all armies try to take as many captives as they can. During a war it is customary frequently to exchange prisoners; that is to say, each side gives back the prisoners they hold, in exchange for their own soldiers who are held by the other side.

Brigands, bandits, and rebels are not considered prisoners of war, and when captured are treated as criminals.

Up to the time of the capture of Victoria de las Tunas, the Spaniards utterly refused to exchange prisoners with the Cubans. They have insisted that

the Cubans were rebels, and have shot their captives without mercy.

The Cubans have tried in every way to get the Spaniards to treat them fairly and acknowledge their rights as a nation at war, but have been unable to do so.

Now the situation is changed, and Spain has at last acknowledged the belligerency of Cuba to a certain extent.

When it was found that Las Tunas could hold out no longer, an unarmed officer was sent out to parley with the Cubans. He said that the commander would surrender if the Cuban General would consent to spare the lives of the garrison, and grant them their liberty in case an exchange of prisoners could be arranged.

General Garcia was only too pleased to agree to these terms, and the forts were delivered over to him.

Eighty-seven Spaniards were afterward exchanged for an equal number of Cubans.

It is thought that the Cubans will endeavor to improve the advantage they have gained by holding the city of Las Tunas, and establishing their government there.

One of the reasons why both Mr. Cleveland and President McKinley have hesitated to acknowledge the war rights of Cuba was that the Cubans did not hold one important city in which to establish a government. Their government was carried on in secret and hidden places, and the army wandered from camp to camp, without one stronghold to call its own.

Should the Cubans fortify Las Tunas, all these ob-

jections will be removed, and the United States may be able to grant these brave people the rights they ask for.

Once recognized as belligerents, they will be able to buy what they need in our ports, and fit out a navy to fight Spain.

The Spaniards are fearful that some such action will be taken. The Government in Madrid has cabled to Weyler that Las Tunas must be retaken at any cost.

An attempt has already been made on the town, but the Spaniards were routed by the Cubans, who still retain possession of their prize.

The Spanish prisoners who were exchanged have been put under arrest for surrendering. They will be court-martialled, that is to say, tried by military court, and called upon to explain why they gave up the town.

From the Cuban accounts that have reached us, it seems that they attribute the victory to the fine work done by a new artillery corps which General Garcia has just organized. An artillery corps is made up of a number of cannon, each having its regular number of gunners to serve it. The artillery is a very valuable assistance in all warfare.

The new corps of gunners had only lately landed on Cuban soil. It consists mainly of American sympathizers with the Cuban cause. The guns they serve are two heavy cannon, six rapid-firing guns, and one dynamite-gun.

The Cubans declare that as soon as the dynamite-gun went into action the victory was assured.

On the other hand, the Spanish claim that the loss

of the city was due to the poor communication kept up on their side between the posts.

For more than two weeks before the attack on the city, the commander at Las Tunas had been aware that the Cubans were advancing, and contemplated an assault on it.

He therefore used the heliograph, and with it flashed the news to the Spanish stations on the Canto River, asking that reinforcements be sent him. He was surprised to receive no answer, and again and again the mirrors flashed his message across the hills. No response was received.

For some unknown reason the commander did not send out scouts and messengers to find out why his despatches were left unanswered. Not receiving any response to his messages, it is strange that he did not send scouts to find out the reason; but the idea does not seem to have occurred to him that the stations on the Canto River had been captured or abandoned.

He throws the whole blame of the disaster on the river stations, and declares that if they had only answered his appeal, Las Tunas might have been saved.

As a matter of fact, the insurgents had been so active in the neighborhood of the Canto River that the garrisons had all been abandoned, and the messages from Las Tunas were never received.

The fall of Las Tunas has made the fate of Holguin, Bayamo, and Jiguani very uncertain. These are other towns which Spain still holds in "Free Cuba." The Spaniards fear that they too will soon fall into the hands of the insurgents. It is rumored that Garcia has already sent an expedition against Holguin.

Reports have reached us that a president has been



elected for Cuba. The reports, however, do not agree, and it is therefore impossible to make any decided statement about the matter.

One telegram states that General Bartolome Maso has been elected, while another, on equally good authority, says that the new Cuban president is Señor Domingo Mendez Capote. Señor Capote is a young lawyer, and while a bright and clever man, was not thought of as a possible candidate for the office. His election, if it is confirmed, will be a great surprise.

The only information which we get reaches us through Havana. It had been arranged that couriers should carry the news of the election to the West as soon as the result was known. No courier has, however, arrived in Havana. Such information as we have received has been sent through channels that may not be reliable.

General Lee has been interviewed in regard to the state of affairs in Cuba.

He gives a very sad picture of the once prosperous island. He says that there is no business doing but that which deals with the actual daily needs. No crops are being raised, except those that are required to supply food, and even these are maintained under difficulties, for the Spaniards destroy when they can all the crops the Cubans try to raise, and the Cubans try to do the same toward the Spanish. Between the two the island is being laid waste.

General Lee also says that he has distributed about \$15,000 of the \$50,000 appropriated by Congress for the relief of the sufferers. He says that there are very few native-born Americans among

those who apply to him for help. They are mostly Cubans who have come to America and become naturalized.

Considerable anxiety is being felt on the score of General Woodford's mission.

He has been presented to the Queen Regent, and we must now wait patiently to know how the Spanish Government will receive the message which he bears from our President.

There are new rumors of a Carlist rising.

It is stated that Don Carlos and his advisers are still waiting for a favorable opportunity to come forward and press their claims.

Don Carlos is still afraid of prejudicing the people against him by coming forward and trying to seize the throne at a moment when the country is in so much trouble. He is hoping that the new leaders of the Government will make some mistake which will render it possible for him to come forward and declare himself the only person who can save the country.

It is stated on most reliable authority that the Carlists have secretly established an elaborate military organization. They have, so it is said, made lists of all the men who are willing to fight for Don Carlos, and have arranged and mustered them in troops and companies, posting each man as to his place and duties. When the time comes that the Carlists unfurl their standard and revolt against the Government of Spain, they expect, by these means, to have a well-drilled army to back up the claims of the Pretender.

Arrangements have been made for the Carlist lead-

ers to meet at Lucerne in Switzerland. They are to discuss the situation. Many of them think that they have been passive long enough, and that it is now high time that a decided attempt should be made to secure the crown for their candidate.



A FLUTTER of excitement was caused in this country the other day by the news that a Spanish officer had been inspecting our Southern coast defences, and had made sketches of some of them to send to Madrid.

Our Government ordered the matter investigated, and it was found that the man who had apparently been spying on our forts was a lieutenant in the Spanish navy named Sobrai. He is known to us as being the author of certain letters, calling attention to the weakness of our coast defences.

On his arrival in Charleston, Señor Sobrai chartered a boat and went over to Sullivan's Island, where the new forts are being constructed, and spent the day examining them.

He was not admitted inside the works, and could only make his observations from the outside. A new regulation has lately been made by the War Department, forbidding any persons to inspect the new defences, except American army and navy officers.

When Lieutenant Sobrai heard of the accusation against him, he protested against it vigorously. He said that he had not made the slightest effort to inspect any of our Southern forts or coast defences.

He declared that he had been in the South on a confidential mission from his Government, and that

his visit to Sullivan's Island was merely to escape the intolerable heat of the city.

Whether his statement be true or false, the scare which he caused will have the good effect of making our Government still more careful about admitting strangers to our forts.



THE reports from India are not as encouraging as they were last week.

There seems to have been small foundation for the statement that the Mullah had ordered his followers to go back to their homes, and had disbanded his forces because of the refusal of the Mohmands to join him.

It is true that the Mohmands have not risen, and that the British have little or no fear that they mean to make trouble; but the Afridis are just as troublesome as ever.

They have now been joined by a new tribe called the Orakzais. If these people are as terrible as their name, they must be an unpleasant enemy.

The news comes from the hills that these two tribes now represent a force of forty-seven thousand men, and that they are advancing on the Samana Hills, where the British have a number of small forts.

The tribesmen apparently intend to attack and demolish these forts.

Some brave fighting is being done in these hills. One of the forts was attacked by a body of Orakzais, one thousand strong. Its garrison consisted of twenty native soldiers, who defended themselves with wonderful heroism for a period of six hours.

One of these men whose duty it was to signal to the other forts remained at his post until the fort was captured. In spite of the bullets that were whistling around him, he continued sending his messages of warning until he was overcome by the enemy.

Another had been told off to defend the guard-room of the fort. He remained at his post, killing twenty of the enemy before he was shot down himself.

Of the whole garrison, but one man remained alive when the assault was over.

These heroes were not white men, but native subjects of Queen Victoria. They belonged to a people called the Sikhs, natives of the Punjaub, a northern province of Hindustan.

With such brave men as these loyal to their standard, the British should take heart about their future in India.

The expedition which is to be sent out to punish the rebellious tribes is being hurried forward with all possible speed.

The Ameer of Afghanistan has, it is said, become seriously alarmed over the advance of the British troops to the frontier. He is persuaded that England intends to invade Afghanistan, and take his country away from him.

The Government in India has sent him word that though they are obliged to send troops across his frontier, in order to accomplish their purposes, their object is solely to punish the mad priest, or Haddah Mullah, and his followers. They assure the Ameer that no harm is intended to him or his loyal subjects, but declare that all the tribes who endeavor to oppose

their advance or harass the English troops will be included in the severe punishment which the British intend to mete out to their enemies.

On hearing this, the Ameer sent a letter to the Mullah, ordering him to cease from inciting the Afridis to revolt.

In spite of this the British Government continues to be very suspicious of the honesty of the Ameer.

Word has been sent to him from the Government that no war material or machinery for manufacturing it will be allowed to cross the frontier into Afghanistan until the present troubles are over, and the tribes at peace.



SOME time ago we talked to you about the Ex-Empress Charlotte of Mexico, widow of the Emperor Maximilian who was shot by the Mexicans.

The Empress, as you doubtless remember, went out of her mind from the troubles of her short reign in Mexico.

We told you that after thirty years of insanity the poor lady had given signs of returning reason, and that the doctors thought a visit to Mexico might entirely restore her.

Preparations were being made for the visit, which was to take place as soon as the doctors thought it safe. All plans have now, however, had to be abandoned, for the Empress Charlotte has become so alarmingly ill that her life is despaired of, and the news of her death is hourly expected.

Ever since her affliction she has been leading a quiet life at the Palace of Larken, near Brussels.

Her insanity has never assumed a violent or unmanageable character, and her sweet and gentle nature has endeared the unhappy lady to all her attendants.

Her mania lay chiefly in a belief that her husband Maximilian was alive, and she spent her days in hourly expectation of his arrival. She appeared to have forgotten all the troubles which had unbalanced her mind, and to be unaware of the cruel death which he had suffered.

The Palace of Larken, where the ex-Empress passed her life, is beautifully situated in a large park. The gentle Princess would wander over the estate, interesting herself in all the various phases of a country life.

It is said that her one pleasure was her dairy. The King of the Belgians, who endeavored to gratify every wish that she expressed, sent a very fine herd of cows to Larken, and the ex-Empress established a model dairy farm, from which she derived much pleasure.



**A**NOTHER traveller has reached the summit of the Enchanted Mesa.

We told you how Professor Libbey, of Princeton, had successfully scaled the bluff, and had reported that there were no traces of human life on the Mesatop.

It seems that the scientists were not altogether satisfied with this decision.

It has been the experience of all men who have had any dealings with the red Indians that, no matter

how vague and strange their legends may be, they are always founded on fact. Every tribe has an abundance of legends, and it has been found that there is always a leaven of truth in them.

The story of the Enchanted Mesa,—how the roadway which led up to the village on its summit was destroyed in a great storm, and how the people left on the top were starved to death because they could not get down,—exists in one form or another among all the tribes in the vicinity, and therefore several men who are versed in Indian lore have refused to believe Professor Libbey's assertion that there were no traces of life to be found on the Mesa's top.

A representative of the Smithsonian Institution, Mr. F. W. Hodge, has just returned from an expedition to the Enchanted Mesa, and his account is utterly at variance with that of the Professor.

Mr. Hodge ascended the Butte by means of an extension ladder, and once on top proceeded to investigate in a much more thorough and leisurely manner than Professor Libbey had attempted to do.

After a long and careful search, which convinced him that people had once dwelt on this mound, Mr. Hodge began to dig at various points where he thought he had a chance of making a find.

His perseverance was soon rewarded. After a few hours' labor he found two stone axes, a broken fragment of a shell bracelet, a stone arrow-point, and several fragments of pottery.

This proves conclusively that there have been dwellers on the Mesa-top, and it seems a pity that after all his trouble the Professor was not rewarded by some such find.



Mr. Hodge says that Professor Libbey could not have attempted to dig, but must have expected to find the traces he was in search of lying exposed on the surface.

By Mr. Hodge's measurement, the Mesa is 431 feet at its highest point, and 224 feet at its lowest.

He thinks there is not a shadow of doubt that it was once occupied by Indians, and suggests that an expedition be sent out prepared to encamp on the Mesa, and examine it much more thoroughly than he was able to do.



THE committee appointed to look into the possibility of establishing a government factory for the manufacture of armor-plate has reported that it will cost about three million dollars.

The committee was also instructed to look about for a desirable site on which to build the works. This raised the hopes of the towns within the iron districts. Delegates from several States have appeared before the board to extol the desirability of their various townships. As yet, however, it is not decided whether the Government will build the works at all, and so the matter of place has not been taken into serious consideration.

It was supposed that the Bethlehem Iron Works and perhaps the Carnegie works might make some offer to the Government by which the works could be under the control of the Government, or the armor could be made at the price the Government offers (\$300 per ton). No offer has as yet been made.

A suggestion has, however, come from a man who

thoroughly understands the manufacture of armor-plate.

He says that by the use of a new process of making steel the plate can be turned out at a much less cost, and with half the waste that there is in the present method of making it. The plant to make this new-process steel can be built for half the money required for the old-style plant, and moreover the armor-plate can be turned out in a much shorter time.

By the use of this process he asserts that the finest armor-plate can be made at a cost of \$150 per ton, and at that price there would be a margin of \$50 profit.

The armor factory board has written to him, telling him that they will be ready to consider any proposals from him in a few days, and will inquire into his process.

The manufacturer says that if the Government does not take kindly to his plan, he will start his own factory, and make armor-plate at \$150 per ton.

There is little fear that the article which this Mr. Carpenter offers is of an inferior character, for all armor-plate is carefully tested before it is accepted.



THE people who have gone to the Klondike gold hunting have found out for themselves the truth of the saying that "all is not gold that glitters."

Day after day news reaches us of the trials and struggles, the hunger and hardships, of those who have hurried off in this mad rush after wealth.

Only a day or two ago a carrier-pigeon reached its home in Portland, Oregon, bearing a message from a party of young men who had set out from that city to seek their fortunes.

Wishing to be able to tell their friends of their safe arrival, the young men took several carrier-pigeons with them. This bird is the first that has arrived. The message it brought was by no means a cheerful one.

When the slip of paper tied to its leg was unwound it was found to contain these words: "We are all well and in good spirits, but tell every one you know not to come up here this winter."

It was written on the summit of Chilkoot Pass, and dated August 25th. The pigeon had flown a distance of 1,071 miles to bear this message, and was completely worn out when it reached its home, refusing food, and declining to enter the dovecote for some hours.

The scarcity of food is already being felt. Some of the old miners are frightened, and are coming out of the district before it is shut in with snow.

Hundreds of men are, however, pouring in from all directions, and shameful stories are reaching us of the wild and lawless deeds that are being done.

A returning messenger brought word that a party of men who had for some reason been separated from their comrades blockaded a mountain pass, and having barred it up with trees and rocks, guarded it with firearms, refusing to allow any one to pass until their friends came up with them.

So lawless did they become that they threatened to

shoot the first man who ventured to approach the barrier.

Party after party arrived at the pass, until finally there was a crowd of two thousand people waiting in the narrow gorge to be allowed to pass the barrier.

This state of affairs continued for several days, until a party of men, more resolute than the rest, pushed their way to the front, made a rush for the barrier, and overcame the resistance.

The waiting crowds promptly pushed aside the barricade, and began to file through the narrow pass; but so eager was each man to be first into the land of gold that the travellers pushed each other aside, knocked their fellows down, and trampled them under foot till the pass looked like a battlefield.

It is strange how men lose all sense of humanity when they are thirsting for gold. The stories of jealousy, hatred, robbery, and murder which have followed the rush for riches into the Klondike are a repetition of the lawless doings of '49 in California.

The question of providing food for these eager hordes has been considered by the President and his Cabinet during the past week.

It has been decided to send two detachments of troops to Alaska, to preserve order and carry supplies to those who are in need of them.

As it will be necessary to send the supplies before Congress can meet and make an appropriation for it, General Alger, the Secretary of War, has agreed to purchase the provisions at his own expense, and trust to Congress to pay him back.



**A** REPORT is current in London that a great honor has been conferred on Sir Julian Pauncefote, the English Ambassador at Washington.

The term for which he was appointed ends next year, in 1898, but it is said that in consideration of the good service he has done, Lord Salisbury has obtained permission of the Queen to keep Sir Julian in office for another year.

The rumor that a new arbitration treaty is to be prepared is again being circulated.

We told you some time ago that it was likely that another treaty would be arranged for, and it is now said that Sir Julian Pauncefote is to be kept in office that he may have ample time to arrange the details of a new agreement which shall be favorably received by both countries.

It is said that when he returns to Washington this winter he will bring with him full instructions to guide him in this difficult matter.



**T**HE next mail from Hawaii is being most anxiously waited for. It is expected that it will bring word what action the Hawaiian Congress has taken in regard to the annexation treaty.

The Legislature of the islands was called to assemble on September 8th, and the first matter to be brought before the law-makers was to be that of annexation.

While the United States have been invited by the Hawaiian Government to annex the islands, the voice of the people has not yet been heard. The decision

of the Congress of the Sandwich Islands will therefore be eagerly looked for.

Some members of our Senate are of the opinion that the people of the islands are not really desirous of being annexed to the United States but if the representatives of the people vote for the measure, it will remove all such doubts from their minds, and greatly help the matter in its journey through our Legislature.

Mr. Thurston, the Hawaiian Minister to the United States, asserts positively that the Congress will decide for annexation.

He says that just before the Legislature in Honolulu adjourned, a joint resolution was offered, declaring that the interests of Hawaii demanded that she should be joined to the United States.

This resolution was adopted unanimously, and as there have been no changes in the Hawaiian Senate since the adjournment, he thinks it absolutely sure that the members voted in favor of annexation.



ONE of the inhabitants of Milledgeville, Kentucky, has a very interesting relic of the early days of our country.

It is an old flint-lock rifle which once belonged to Daniel Boone, the famous pioneer, who opened up Kentucky for us.

It is asserted that this rifle belonged to Boone when he went to Kentucky in May, 1769, and the history of the rifle can be so clearly traced back to its first owner that there seems to be little doubt of the truth of the story.

The barrel of the gun measures four feet one inch, and the entire gun six feet two inches.

The story goes that it was with this gun that Boone helped to kill the 2,300 deer whose skins were hidden in the mountains of Kentucky, while the pioneers went back to Virginia for more ammunition and supplies.

When the men returned a few months later, they found that the Indians had stolen and destroyed the entire lot of skins.

The present owner of the gun has had it for fifty years.



**A** NEW bullet-proof cloth has been invented by a priest of Chicago, Father Casimir Zeglen.

Father Casimir is a man of peace, who takes but little interest in implements of warfare, and this great discovery was made by chance. The discovery once made, he determined to bring his invention to the highest state of perfection, hoping that through it he might lessen the horrors of war, and save many innocent lives that are now sacrificed for the honor of a country.

The cloth is intended to be used as a padding or interlining for the soldiers' uniforms, and its inventor hopes to make the cloth so thin and flexible that it can be worn without inconvenience.

It has already been tested, and the results were highly satisfactory.

The test was made at Fort Sheridan, near Chicago, and it was decided to use the Krag-Jorgensen gun against it.

The inch steel bullet thrown by this rifle has, it is said, been known to pierce through armor-plate. It has made its way through twenty inches of packed sand, pierced twenty-two inches of oak timber, and fired from a distance of six hundred yards it will pass through five feet of earth.

The cloth stood the test of these terrible bullets wonderfully well. Five thicknesses of the material were used for the test, all the pieces being exactly the same size, and laid together in one compact pad.

The first shot was made at a distance of four hundred yards. It was found that the bullet had pierced through the first thickness of the cloth, but had become flattened out against the rest.

When the bullet was removed from the cloth it was said to have looked like a mushroom, the end that had first touched the cloth being flattened.

The experiments were continued at shorter and shorter range, but the cloth was never quite pierced through.

The military men who witnessed the trial were amazed at the results.

Colonel Hall, who conducted the experiments, said that he thought that the cloth might perhaps be penetrated at a distance of fifty yards, but even so, there was no doubt that it would afford immense protection for soldiers engaged in actual warfare.

The material of which the cloth is made is a secret. Father Casimir will only say that it is made of silk. He keeps it so closely covered that no one has had an opportunity of examining it.

He evidently has the most absolute faith in the qualities of his invention, for he is anxious that the



authorities of Governor's Island, New York, shall make a test of his invention, and offers to envelope himself in the cloth and let the soldiers fire at him.

He wishes to sail for Europe and give exhibitions of his invention in various cities.

If the Governor's Island test takes place, regular army rifles are to be used, and the only precaution the priest will consent to is, that the soldiers shall first fire at an animal, enveloped in the bullet-proof cloth. When it is found that the creature escapes unhurt, the priest insists that he shall be allowed to become the target.

G. H. ROSENFELD.

# THE GREAT ROUND WORLD



AND WHAT IS GOING ON IN IT.

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THE peace negotiations are settled; that is to say, the plans suggested by Lord Salisbury, and agreed to by the Powers, have also been accepted by the Sultan.

On the 18th of September, after a conference of three hours, the ambassadors and Tewfik Pasha signed their names to the treaty. As soon as this was done, Tewfik carried the document to the palace and obtained the Sultan's signature also.

According to the terms of the treaty, the troops are to be withdrawn from Thessaly within one month after it goes into effect, and the Powers are to control the income of Greece until the war indemnity of fifteen million dollars shall be paid.

Nothing now remains but for Greece to agree and for King George to sign his name beside that of the Sultan.

Though every one must feel glad that peace has been made between these two warring nations, yet the terms are so hard for Greece that if she signs

the treaty she will practically be signing away her independence as a nation.

There is a very shameful story behind the Greco-Turkish war. In the histories that will be written about it, it will be recorded that Greece was sacrificed by Europe for the sake of Turkish gold.

We have told you before of the money difficulties in Turkey, and that the Sultan has been called the "Sick Man of Europe" because of the unfortunate condition of his affairs, which were in such a deplorable state that it seemed as though the kingdom of Turkey must soon be swallowed up by the more powerful nations of Europe.

The Turkish nation has been on the verge of bankruptcy for many years. To help the struggling Government along loans of money have been made at different times, and all that was of value in the country pledged as security for the repayment of the loans. Bonds were issued on these securities, but owing to the impoverished condition of the country they were of very little value, and at one time the Turkish bonds were the joke of the stock market. Still, the bonds existed, and their holders hoped at some time to get their money back.

Few governments are wealthy enough to support themselves without borrowing money. In Europe most loans are arranged by the wealthy bankers, who demand security in return. We explained this matter to you in speaking of the quicksilver mines and the Rothschilds, on page 1023.

Transactions of a similar character to that of the quicksilver mines have been entered into by almost all of the European countries, and the consequence

is that there is hardly a foreign nation that is not under obligations to its moneyed men, or financiers, as they are called.

The power of the financiers has become so great that they are now able to dictate the policy of Europe. Behind the will of kings and emperors is the will of these financiers. If the moneyed men refuse to lend their gold to a country, they may prevent its going to war, the erection of fine buildings, or the doing of many things that are necessary to keep up its proper position as a nation.

When Greece, enraged that her Christian brothers should be under the thralldom of the heathen Turk, went to the rescue of Crete, all the brave men of Europe applauded the gallant little country for her pluck. But the brave men of Europe did not represent the money of Europe. The financiers who were at the back of the various Powers distinctly disapproved of the war. If Greece succeeded in whipping the Turks all the money invested in Turkey might be lost.

It was well understood that Greece could not succeed in the struggle with Turkey unless some of the Powers came to her aid, and so the financiers warned the statesmen that Grece must not be helped; and because of the power of the financiers, and for the sake of the money involved, Greece was sacrificed, and Turkey permitted to be the victor.

The whole situation was thoroughly understood by the Sultan, who laughed in his sleeve at the dilemma the Powers were in; and knowing that he was perfectly safe, and that they dare not declare war against him, he delayed the peace negotiations for

months, and settled his army in Thessaly, to destroy the prosperity of the country.

The position of Greece is now something deplorable. When she has given her consent to the terms of the treaty she will no longer be a free and independent nation, but a slave to the countries that control her treasury. While she still has her King seated on the throne, his power is no longer what it was. He can carry out no great schemes for his country's good, for he can enter into no plans, that involve the spending of money, without the consent of the Powers that are to manage his affairs.

The plan that the Powers should control the treasury of Greece was not agreed upon until Germany, prompted by the financiers, insisted that Greece must lay money by to take care of her old debts, as well as of the new war payment.

This is the story of the Greco-Turkish war. The great Powers stood quietly by and let Greece be sacrificed, and then insisted upon a shameful treaty, that will bring ruin and distress to a sister country, because the financiers were unwilling to lose money they had invested.

The Powers are, however, by no means satisfied with the result of their fifteen weeks of deliberation and discussion. They feel that the Sultan has got much the best of them at every point, and even though he has agreed to do so, they are uncertain whether he intends to keep faith with them about either Crete or Thessaly.

It is said that as soon as the first five million dollars is paid he will invent some fresh excuse for keeping his soldiers in Thessaly a little longer, and

that he will lengthen the time little by little, until, in the end, he will retain possession of Thessaly altogether.

He has already hinted that he does not mean to keep faith about Crete.

He told the Italian ambassador the other day that in return for the good terms he had made with Greece he expected the Powers to be very lenient in regard to Crete.

The ambassador, much surprised at this remark, ventured to remind the Sultan that Home Rule for Crete had already been agreed on.

The crafty Sultan smiled and shrugged his shoulders, and intimated to the ambassador that the settlement of affairs in Crete was not quite so sure as he seemed to think.

The conclusion of the peace has left every one weary and annoyed. The Powers evidently feel ashamed of the part they have taken in the affair, and are seeking to find an excuse for their own wrongdoings by blaming their representatives. It is therefore rumored that all the ambassadors at Constantinople are to be changed, because the Powers feel that they have been outwitted by the Sultan, and can no longer have any influence with him.

It must not be supposed that the Greeks are taking the matter quietly.

A feeling of intense indignation prevails throughout Greece. Mass-meetings have been held protesting against the treaty, bonfires have been built at which the people have eased their feelings by burning copies of the hated peace document. It is even

thought that the Greek Congress, the Boulé, may refuse to accept the treaty as it stands.

Some of the Greeks declare that the signing of the treaty will mean that Greece will cease to be a nation and become nothing more than a name.

Were Greece a little stronger than she is, it is certain that she would reject the terms of peace, and continue the war with Turkey, but unfortunately she is in such a feeble condition that it looks as if she would have to do just as the Powers dictate.

In spite of the anger and indignation of her people, Greece has very little choice but to accept the treaty as it stands.



**S**OME excitement was caused last week by the rumor that General Woodford had informed the Spanish minister of foreign affairs that unless the war with Cuba was brought to a close in October, the United States would interfere.

As you may suppose, this report caused a good deal of surprise. If it were true it could only mean that war was about to be declared with Spain.

The rumor came from Paris, and there was much telegraphing back and forth to Washington, and interviewing persons in high positions, to know if this report was really true.

It was a relief to everybody when word came from the Duke of Tetuan that his talk with General Woodford had been a very pleasant one, and that nothing but kind and friendly words had passed between them.

It seems that General Woodford told the Duke that the United States considered the present state of affairs in Cuba most pitiable, and offered her good offices to bring the war to an end.

The Duke of Tetuan, in repeating what our minister had said to him, stated that the whole conversation was most satisfactory, and that he was ready to talk further on the subject with General Woodford whenever he was prepared to do so.

He absolutely denied that there was any talk of war, and General Woodford, on his part, declared that war would not be thought of until every other means had been tried.

Spain's troubles are increasing daily, and it seems more than likely that she will be willing to accept our friendly intervention, and allow the cruel and expensive war in Cuba to cease.

The report that more troops are to be sent to the island has been confirmed, but it is now said that only 6,000 will be sent, instead of the 27,000 promised.

The reason for this is that Spain is having trouble in raising money. Money she must have, as her treasury is empty, and the enormous expenses of the war still continue.

The new government that was formed after the death of Canovas does not seem to have the strength to deal with the situation. It is constantly rumored that it is about to resign, and that Señor Sagasta, who has such liberal views about Cuba, is to be called to form a new government.

While things are in this state of uncertainty and public confidence is thus shaken, it is but natural that



the financiers should be unwilling to loan Spain more money, lest they should not get it back.

To add to the uncertainty it is rumored abroad that there is to be an immediate attempt by the Carlists to overthrow the Government and seize the throne of Spain.

The poor Queen Regent is much worried with all this trouble. The loss of Canovas at the most critical moment of the Cuban war seems to have taken away all her courage, and it is said that she is very unhappy, and is constantly weeping over her boy, the young King Alphonso, for the poor mother fears she may not be strong enough to hold the crown of Spain for him.

There is a story that in her distress the Queen Regent has sent a personal message to Don Carlos, begging him not to begin a civil war at a moment when Spain has so many other enemies to fight.

A civil war is a war carried on between citizens of the same country.

It is said that Don Carlos sent a very unkind reply to the Queen, and said that he should come forward just as soon as he felt that the country needed him.

It is stated that he believes that war with the United States cannot be avoided, and that he intends to wait till war is declared, and then offer to save Spain if he is made king.

His friends are all gathering at Lucerne to hold the council of which we spoke last week. The unhappy Queen Christine is waiting with much anxiety to learn what they decide to do.



**I**N CUBA, the insurgents continue to be victorious. The Spaniards are being driven out of the inland towns, and their real strength is now only on the sea-board.

Several unsuccessful attempts have been made by the Spaniards to recapture Victoria de las Tunas, and to break the power of the insurgents in Santiago de Cuba. The Cubans have, however, gained victory after victory, and have at last driven the Spaniards over the trocha, and utterly destroyed the town of Las Tunas. They were not strong enough to fortify and hold it, so they decided to burn it to the ground.

In one of the engagements to recapture the town, General Luque, the Spanish commander, again exchanged prisoners with the Cubans, and in a letter to General Garcia, in reference to the matter, addressed him as the *Commander-in-Chief of the Cuban forces in the East*. The Cubans have sent this letter on to their representatives in Washington with instructions to bring it to the notice of our Government, to convince them that the Spaniards have really acknowledged the belligerent rights of the Cubans.

The indignation in Spain over the loss of Las Tunas gave rise to such very severe comment on Weyler's bad generalship that he made up his mind to offer his resignation to his Government.

The Prime Minister, General Azcarraga, however, replied to Weyler's message that he had perfect confidence in him and in his ability to bring the war to a speedy close, and would not permit him to resign.

Weyler, gratified at this, at once sent one of his boastful and untruthful replies.

He said that the war was all but over. He had still a little work to do before he could consider the West of the island entirely pacified, but that so soon as this was accomplished he would set out for Eastern Cuba and subdue that.

The Government appeared to be perfectly satisfied with this statement, but it is strange that this should be the case.

Months ago General Weyler said that Eastern Cuba was all but pacified, and that he was just about to finish his work there, and proceed to subdue Western Cuba. After a little while he declared Eastern Cuba pacified, and started off for his work in the West.

Now he tells the same story about the West, and seems to forget that according to his own statement Eastern Cuba is subdued.

If the great Spanish general keeps on at his present rate of progress, it will be a long time before he gets both ends of Cuba pacified at the same time.

Weyler complains bitterly about the filibustering expeditions. He declares that the war could have been long since terminated if the United States had not given so much aid to the insurgents by allowing these expeditions to be fitted out in her ports.

The *Dauntless* has been successful in carrying three expeditions to Cuba lately.

One of them was landed only a few miles from Havana, and passed within gunshot of the great fortress Morro Castle without being seen by any of the gunboats which are supposed to guard the shores.

Weyler was furious that such a daring act should have been safely accomplished, and has written a severe letter to the Admiral in charge of the fleet, upbraiding him for his carelessness.

In the last of her three expeditions the saucy little *Dauntless* ran short of coal and water, and to the annoyance of the Spaniards the keeper of a lighthouse situated on one of the West Indian keys that belong to England gave the men the supplies they needed, and enabled them to make their third trip in safety.

General Weyler has ordered an investigation of the matter, and intends to make a formal complaint to England about the action of the lighthouse keeper.

The way the *Dauntless* managed her three expeditions without being caught was very clever. All the stores, ammunition, arms, and men that were to be conveyed to Cuba were gradually gathered on one of the Florida keys. There are a great number of these little banks and islands stretching along the coast of Florida, and some of them are so difficult to reach, for any steamer that draws much water, that they make good hiding-places.

When everything was in readiness the *Dauntless* went down to the key, and one after the other took off her three loads. The hiding-place was so well chosen that no one knows exactly where it is, and if the Cubans keep their secret they will be able to send other expeditions in the same way.

General Weyler has other anxieties on his mind just now. He is expecting the arrival of a new floating dock which has been built for him in England, at a cost of \$900,000.

This great dock is intended to be used as a dry-dock; that is to say, it is so made that ships can be lifted clear out of the water by it, so that they can be repaired, cleaned, or painted.

There is no dry-dock in Cuban harbors, and it is very necessary to have one. Ships that cruise long in tropical waters are very apt to get their hulls covered with barnacles and sea-weed. These growths after a while prevent the ship from cutting easily through the water, and decrease her speed. All ships that are long in these southern seas have to have their hulls scraped every now and then. Many of the war-vessels that are now in Cuban waters have been a year without this necessary cleaning, and to make it possible to do the work in Cuba, without the loss of time necessary to go back to the Spanish navy yards, the Government has gone to the expense of building the floating dock.

There have been no end of difficulties about the dock. When it was finished it was so big and heavy that it was very doubtful if any ship could safely tow it across the Atlantic. The shipbuilders added a false bow and stern to the dock, to make it cut its way through the water a little, and in this fashion it is now being brought to Cuba; but the gravest doubts are entertained as to the possibility of its ever reaching its destination. It is feared that in case of a severe storm the hawser, or strong rope by which it is towed, will part, and the costly floating dock be left drifting about the ocean, a danger to mariners.

But this is not the half of the trouble over the dock.

The greatest annoyance in regard to it is that it

was built without properly considering the amount of water it would draw; that is to say, the depth of water necessary to float it.

Now that the dock is on its way to Cuba, it is found that it draws too much water for the bay of Havana, and cannot be brought in and used there.

When this unpleasant news was communicated to General Weyler, he cabled to his agent in New York, asking him to send a dredging-machine over to Havana immediately. To the General's mind the whole affair was simple enough: he would get a dredging-machine, scoop out a channel, and have the dock in place in no time.

He was therefore much angered to receive a reply that there were several kinds of dredging-machines, and that to send him a machine that would do the work properly it would be necessary to know the nature of the soil of the bottom of the bay.

Now no one has ever dredged Havana Bay since the city was first founded in the sixteenth century, and there are no means at hand of obtaining the desired information. There will therefore be some delay before the required investigation can be made.

Added to this, the New York firm sent him word that a special machine will have to be constructed to dredge to the depth required by the floating-dock, that it will take six months to build such a machine, and another six months to dredge the bay. This makes one year before the \$900,000 floating dock now on its way to Cuba can be of any use to Spain.

It seems a cruel waste of money at an hour when Spain is so poor.



**T**HE election of Señor Domingo Mendez Capote as President of the Republic of Cuba has been confirmed. Bartolome Maso was made Vice-President, and Cisneros, the ex-president, was made leader of the Congress.

General Gomez was appointed Minister of War, and General Garcia Commander-in-Chief of the army.

The report says that at the commencement of the election it seemed as if there would be some trouble between the various candidates for office. Realizing that it would be fatal to the cause to have any bad feeling among the leaders, General Gomez proposed Señor Capote as a man who would be acceptable to all parties. Every one saw the wisdom of Gomez's suggestion, and Capote was elected.

It is said that the new President has done a great deal to get the laws of Cuba in proper shape.

All the Cubans seem to be satisfied with the result of the election.



**T**HE British have met with serious reverses in their frontier war.

They were successful in relieving the forts in the Samana Hills that were attacked by the tribesmen, but two days after this work had been done they were forced to retreat.

They were attacked by a large body of natives, who surrounded them, and but for a timely charge of cavalry would have routed them. As it was, the British retreat was orderly, and they lost none of their guns or baggage.

The natives are delighted at their success, and especially because the troops they attacked were a portion of the force sent out to punish them for their rebellion.

The Government in England is much distressed that the check should have occurred. For the sake of England's position in India it is necessary that the British should sweep all before them, and show the tribes that they are not to be trifled with. That the punishing expedition should have been beaten and forced to retreat will make the work England has to do in India still harder for her.

The tribesmen are alive to the value of their victory, and have continued to attack the troops with the utmost persistence.

The Haddah Mullah, the priest who has been so active in raising the rebellion, is again leading the tribes, and has roused his followers to such a pitch of enthusiasm that they do not show the slightest fear, and perform the most daring feats.

On one occasion the British were drawn up in battle array, and had formed into the square, which is considered an invincible method of receiving an enemy. The Haddah Mullah and his followers attacked three sides of the square at the same time. The rebels were repulsed, but their wonderful courage was commented on by the British, who, after the engagement was over, found their bodies within a few yards of the muzzles of the guns. Such people are hard to defeat.

It may interest you to know something about the square.

This formation of troops is considered the strong-



est. It is used principally to repel cavalry or to resist a larger force. It has been in use since the sixteenth century.

To form a square the troops are drawn up into a quadrangle, or square, the soldiers all standing so that they face outward. By this means each side of the square presents a solid front to the enemy, and it is wellnigh impossible for an attacking force to break through.

In the sixteenth century the square was composed of a solid body of men; at the present time it is a hollow formation. The soldiers stand in ranks four or five deep, the officers, colors, and baggage being in the centre.

The English are particularly partial to this formation, and it has long been the boast of the commanders that a British square has never been broken.

The force of insurgents led by the Haddah Mullah attacked the English camp soon after nightfall. The soldiers were at once formed into a square around their baggage, and though, as we have said, the attack was fiercely made on three sides at once, the famous square stood firm, and the tribesmen were forced to retire.

Ten batteries of artillery and eight regiments of cavalry have been ordered out from England to help suppress the insurrection in India.



IT is reported from the Soudan that a treaty of peace is about to be made between the Mahdi and Great Britain.

The terms of the treaty are said to be that the

Mahdi will not oppose the British forces advancing as far as Khartoum, and that they may station troops to keep possession of the land they have gained, but that they must not attempt to go a step farther. The Mahdi is to remain King of Khartoum.

It is not yet known whether the terms of peace will be accepted by England.

An interesting find was made at Berber. When the British troops entered the town they found on one of the boats in the river a uniform-case marked Gordon Pasha.

The English officers to whom it was brought were much moved at the sight of an article that had once been the property of the unfortunate General Gordon, who was killed by the Mahdists at Khartoum on January 26, 1885.



**T**HERE is news of Professor Andrée.

You remember that he started from Spitzbergen in a balloon, hoping to sail across the North Pole.

A report from Arctic Russia says that on the night of September 14th the inhabitants of a little village saw a balloon which was believed to be that of Andrée's.

A day or two after this a carrier-pigeon brought a despatch from the traveller.

The tidings brought by this bird were that Andrée was making a good voyage to the eastward, and that all was going well.

There is no doubt that this message is a genuine one from the explorer. The pigeon bore on

its wings the same markings as on those which the adventurer carried with him. Scientists have, however, expressed their opinion that Andrée has failed to reach the Pole. The message of the bird and the direction in which the balloon was seen to be going have convinced them that Andrée has been carried eastward, and not across the Pole, as he had hoped.

It is thought that by this time the gas in the balloon must have become exhausted, and that Andrée and his companions have had to cut loose from it, and are on the ice somewhere near Spitzbergen, and that they may perhaps be so fortunate as to drift near enough to civilization to be picked up and rescued.



**I**NTERESTING news has reached us about Lieutenant Peary.

He left Boston in July to see if he could not establish a settlement far to the north in Greenland, which should serve him as a base of supplies, or a place where he could leave the main part of his baggage, and to which he could send or return at will.

Lieutenant Peary's plan for reaching the North Pole, when he sets out in 1898, is to establish a number of Esquimau colonies at certain distances apart, and leave supplies with each colony on which he can fall back in case of need.

He reports that he will have no difficulty in carrying out his plan. He met a number of old friends among the Esquimaux, all of whom were eager to help him in his work of exploring the north of Greenland and searching for the North Pole. He has every

hope that the new trip which he is about to undertake will be a successful one.

Lieutenant Peary reports that he is bringing with him the great Cape York meteorite, which he intends to place in the American Museum of Natural History in New York.

A meteorite is a fallen meteor or star, a mass of metal that has fallen upon the earth from space. It is often called a fallen star.

From the earliest times to the present there is a record of 520 meteorites having fallen upon the earth; 142 of this number fell in the United States; 13 were seen to fall.

Forty-five years ago a traveller visiting Greenland noticed that the natives used some kind of metal with which they put tips and edges on their weapons. On inquiry they told him that they obtained it from some large stones, but they could not or would not show him where the stones were to be found.

Lieutenant Peary determined to find them, as he suspected that they were meteorites, and after a long and careful search he found them on Melville Bay, a little east of Cape York.

There were three rocks, all of uncommonly large size, and on examination they proved to be meteorites, one of them being the largest ever found.

In 1895 the two smaller ones were brought back by Lieutenant Peary; but before he was able to move the larger one, the ice began to form in the bay, and not wishing to be blocked in for the winter, he had to leave the prize where it was.

Last year he made another effort to secure the big

stone, but the machinery he was using to raise it got out of order, and he again had to abandon the attempt.

Now a message comes from Sydney, a port on Cape Breton, Nova Scotia, which says that he has arrived safely, bringing with him the famous meteorite.

When his vessel, the *Hope*, steamed into port she was in a very battered condition. She had encountered so many storms and such furious seas that her bulwarks had been washed away.

In addition to this she was burning her last ton of coal as she steamed into port, and so her crew must have been very glad when they sighted land.

We have not yet heard how the big meteorite was wrenched from its icy bed, and it is probable that when the *Hope* reaches New York we shall have an interesting story to tell you about it.



THE news from the Sandwich Islands is of a very pleasant character.

The Hawaiian Senate met in extra session, and agreed to the annexation of the islands to the United States. There was not one vote against it, and so the treaty was ratified by a "unanimous vote" of the Senate.

Every Senator was in his seat as the roll was called, and nearly every one had a good word to say for annexation.

A protest against the treaty was handed to the President, and considered by the Senate before the treaty was ratified.

The Senators did not regard the protest as worthy of much consideration, as it was signed by but fifteen persons, all of whom were friends of the ex-queen. They therefore regarded it as a political scheme arranged by those royalists who still have hopes of restoring the monarchy.

It is said that Liliuokalani has a new plan for the throne of Hawaii. She has come to the conclusion that the people of the Sandwich Islands want neither her nor her rule any longer. She did so many bad things while she was queen that the people who would like to see the monarchy restored would not be willing that she should be queen again.

Liliuokalani has therefore decided to resign the throne in favor of her niece, the Princess Kaiulani.

This young lady is a charming and well-educated person, and the old Queen is wise enough to know that none of the objections which people have to her could apply to Kaiulani.

If the plan is successful, the young Queen is to make ample provision for Liliuokalani.

Meanwhile Japan has agreed to arbitrate the immigration question, but refuses to consider the matter from the Hawaiian point of view.

The complaint which was made against Japan in the first instance was that she evaded the law which provided that every immigrant must have a contract for labor and fifty dollars in cash in his pocket, by giving false contracts and lending the required fifty dollars, which immigrants gave back as soon as they were safely landed.

The Japanese refuse to enter into the question whether this fifty dollars was fraudently supplied.

They say that so long as each man had fifty dollars in his possession, it was nobody's business where or how he got it. They persistently refuse to arbitrate this point, which seems to be the most important of all the questions involved.

The Japanese are continuing to send large numbers of emigrants to Honolulu, and the Hawaiians have become very much alarmed about it.

They insist that the new colonists are Japanese soldiers disguised as laborers, and that the Mikado is sending them over to be in readiness to fight for the possession of the country in case the United States decides to annex it.



THE strike in Hazleton is now over, but the settlement has not been made without a good deal of trouble and anxiety.

When the state troops ordered out by the Governor arrived in the town, some of the men decided to go to work under the protection of the troops. The spirit of the strikers had been broken by the firing of the Sheriff and his posse, and many of the men who were peaceably inclined thought the best thing to do was to go back to work.

The women did not agree with them. The wives and mothers of the unfortunate men who had been killed declared that their dear ones should not have been sacrificed for nothing; and as the men refused to continue the strike, the women decided to go on with it for them.

A strike is of no use unless all the men stand together and hold out for their point. The women

understood this perfectly, and they determined that the men should stand together.

Arming themselves with sticks, they set out in a body for the mines that were being worked, and under the very noses of the soldiers raided the works and drove the men out.

The next morning the men, still determined to go to work, started out in a body for the mines. On their way they were met by a body of women, who drove them back with threats and scoldings to their homes again.

The general in command of the state troops then decided that it was time for him to interfere, and on the third day, when the women attempted to stop the men, the troops were ordered to disperse them.

To frighten the women the officers ordered their men to fix their bayonets and advance on the women as if they meant to charge them.

The two bodies met—the women brandishing their sticks, and the men with their glittering bayonets pointed at this unusual foe.

The women were, however, not deceived. They refused to believe that the soldiers would charge them, and when they saw the men advancing they began to laugh. This laugh was rapidly taken up by the soldiers; and the two parties facing each other, brandishing their weapons and laughing, must have been a curious sight.

For some time the women stood their ground, but finally became convinced that, though the soldiers were not going to do them any harm, they did not mean to allow them to pass or to do any mischief of their own. They then fell back, and returned to



their homes; and the women being disposed of, the miners went peaceably to their work.



**T**HE sheriff and the deputies who did the shooting in Hazleton have been arrested.

At the first hearing the judge decided that there was a grave cause of complaint against the men, and so he ordered that they should be tried before a jury to find whether they were guilty of murdering the rioters.

As they were all respectable men, who were not likely to run away, the judge allowed them to furnish bail. That is to say, he said that if they could each find a friend who would give the court \$6,000 as a surety that they would come up for trial when their case was called, they might go free in the mean time.

Each of the accused men was able to furnish the required bail, and so they are all at liberty for the present.



**Q**UEEN CHRISTINA of Spain is not the only queen regent in Europe. The Government of Holland is also in the hands of a queen mother, who is guiding the affairs of state for her young daughter, Queen Wilhelmina.

The fact has been brought to our notice by the announcement of Queen Emma that her daughter will be eighteen years old next August, and will then assume the cares of government.

Queen Emma has been Regent of the Netherlands since 1890, when her husband King William III. became insane, and was declared to be incapable of governing.

The little Wilhelmina was then ten years old. She is now a grown-up young lady, and there is quite a stir among the royal families of Europe to find a suitable husband for her.

A marriage has been proposed for her with Prince Alexander of Teck, whose sister is the wife of the Duke of York, and will probably one day be Queen of England. The Duke of York is the son of the Prince of Wales.

The young Prince of Teck has been sent to Holland to visit the young Queen at her castle of Loo, but as yet the Queen has neither refused nor accepted him.

It is rumored that Prince Alexander of Teck hopes that Wilhelmina will refuse him, as he is very anxious to marry a young American of great wealth.

This is a very romantic story, and very pleasing to our national vanity to think that one of the daughters of America may some day be closely related to the Queen of England, but it is a very remote contingency, and not very likely to occur.

G. H. ROSENFELD.

## INVENTION AND DISCOVERY.

Tennessee has the latest thing in bicycles.

It seems that the wheel craze is just as rampant there as it is in our own fair city of New York, but that the facilities for owning machines are not as great there as here.

To overcome this, a bright-minded individual has invented a new device, which is certainly the most ingenious we have yet heard of.

It is a "nickel-in-the-slot" bicycle, and probably works somewhat on the principle of the "quarter-in-the-slot" gas-meter, which for every twenty-five cents put in, releases just that coin's worth of gas to illuminate your house.

The bicycle, however, is arranged in such a manner that for every five-cent piece dropped in the slot it will run exactly five miles.

There is not the slightest fear of the rider forgetting to renew the nickel when he has ridden his five cents' worth; nor is there any chance of his cheating the wheel out of an extra mile—or half inch, for the matter of that.

When the end of the five miles is reached the honest wheel stops dead. Whether it throws its rider over its head or not is a matter of no moment to it. It stops then and there, and refuses to move another foot until it is re-fed with a fresh nickel. Then it will bound along again as peacefully as before.

The story does not say whether a device in the form of a small red flag shoots out from any portion of the wheel to give a warning when the next "lap's"

rent is due. But without some such plan we should doubt whether this kind of wheel would ever become very popular; for while four miles and three quarters might be ridden with much peaceful enjoyment, the last quarter of a mile would be filled with terrors that would spoil the pleasure of the nicest ride ever attempted.

G. H. R.

### LETTERS FROM OUR YOUNG FRIENDS.

DEAR EDITOR:

Where can the "pocket protector" and scissors-sharpening machine, mentioned in *THE GREAT ROUND WORLD*, be obtained.

Mrs. M. F.

NORTHFIELD, MINN., Aug. 4th, 1897.

DEAR MADAM:

We are not able to tell you where the above articles are manufactured, but you could obtain them through the agency of any reliable, first-class hardware store. In all such stores they have illustrated catalogues of the various articles manufactured in their line of goods, and you should have no difficulty in finding both the pocket protector and the scissors sharpener.

EDITOR.

DEAR EDITOR:

I have never written to you before, so you don't know my name. Papa is on the school committee, so you sent him a sample copy. I saw it, and was very much interested in it. I am extremely fond of reading and have read at least ten different histories. And with one exception I like your little book best of all. You can imagine how well I like to read when I tell you I am

eleven years old, and have read over seven hundred prose books, and the books of ten different poets. I could read primary lessons when I was three years old.

Yours truly,

ELEANOR J. L.

P. S.—I am going to earn money so I can subscribe.

NEWBURYPORT, MASS., Sept. 7th, 1897.

DEAR ELEANOR:

We are delighted to hear from you, and to have the indorsement of such a bright little critic as you must be after all that you have read.

Would you not like to have our premium list and learn the easiest way for you to become a subscriber?

EDITOR.

DEAR EDITOR:

Your little magazine is of great interest to me, as I am sure it is to many others. I am especially interested in the accounts you give of the search for the North Pole. I do hope that soon *somebody* will succeed in reaching it, so as to tell us just what kind of a region it is.

I hope that the Cubans will soon gain their liberty, or I think they surely deserve it.

Wishing THE GREAT ROUND WORLD great success, and a long life, I remain,

Your most devoted reader,

ALISON H.

BREWSTER, CAPE COD, MASS., Sept. 7th, 1897.

DEAR ALISON:

Many thanks for your nice kind letter, and for the good wishes contained in it.

EDITOR.

# THE GREAT ROUND WORLD



AND WHAT IS GOING ON IN IT.

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**T**HERE was a very disquieting rumor last week to the effect that England had refused to take part in the Seal Conference.

The reason given for her refusal was that she could not join in the discussion if Russia and Japan were admitted to it.

At the British Foreign Office, which is the department of the Government that has the charge of such matters, the officials refused to say positively whether Great Britain had declined to take part in the conference, but they let it be understood that Canada was at the bottom of the trouble.

The Canadian Government was most unwilling to have Great Britain join in the conference, and asked that the mother country should withdraw, and leave the settlement of the matter to the colony that was most interested in it.

It was thought that Canada feared that Japan and Russia might look at the sealing question from the same point of view that we do, and so persuaded Eng-

land to object to them, and thus draw out of the conference.

That England should say she would not join because of Russia and Japan, was a great surprise to the officials in Washington.

When Mr. Foster was in London last July, he told the British officials that he had just returned from St. Petersburg, having obtained the consent of the Czar to send a representative to the meeting. England consenting to join the conference soon after this, it was thought that the consent of the two other countries had influenced her to come to a like decision.

In the same month of July, our ambassador in England wrote to Lord Salisbury, told him of the arrangements that had been made, and asked whether Great Britain would surely be represented.

The Prime Minister kept this note unanswered until September, and then said he could not possibly take part in any discussion to which Japan and Russia were also to be admitted.

Every one wondered what this refusal could mean, and it caused a very bad impression, as it came right after the publication by the Foreign Office of a book in which the letters and despatches which had passed between the two countries in the seal dispute had been printed.

This book contained some very unfriendly remarks about the United States. Among other things it was said that we ought not to be making such a fuss about the kind of sealing that is now being carried on, because in 1832 we practised the same methods ourselves in the South Atlantic Ocean.

This accusation is absolutely true, but Mr. Cham-

berlain, in his book, did not add that bitter experience in the south had taught us our lesson, and that it is because of the destruction we had worked to the southern herd that we are so anxious to take better care of the northern.

So important does the protection of the seals seem to our Government, that when the news came that England might not join in the conference if Japan and Russia were represented there, it was decided to hold the meeting, whether Great Britain joined or not. But, being anxious to keep on the best of terms with our English cousins, the Government sent a most pressing invitation to England, begging her to attend the conference, and hear what the scientists had to say about the seal herd, even if she would not take any part in the discussion.

In view of this, England has consented to attend the meetings, but will not say whether she will take any part in the proceedings.

The English papers say they cannot see what interest the Russians and Japanese have in the Bering Sea dispute. The United States is, however, extremely anxious that these two countries should be at the meeting to give their opinion about the proper manner and season in which to hunt seals.

It is intended that several scientists who have studied the habits of the seals shall appear before the members of the conference, and give their views about the condition of the herd. Professor D'Arcy Thompson for England, and Professor David Starr Jordan for America, will be among the number.

Russian and Japanese experts are also to make statements on the subject; but a report from Canada says



that the Canadian representative intends to ask that these gentlemen shall not be allowed to speak, as she does not think they are sufficiently well acquainted with the life and habits of the seals to be able to offer an expert opinion.

Up to the moment of receiving Great Britain's refusal to treat with us, every one supposed that it was only necessary to explain to England the damage that was being done to the herd, for her to join us in making arrangements to protect them.

Now every one is feeling uncertain what the result of the conference will be.

We told you the cause of this difference of opinion between the two countries was the careless and wasteful way in which the hunters have killed the seals.

Instead of waiting till the animals have reached their feeding-grounds, they have killed many in the open sea; this is called pelagic sealing, and is against the law. In addition to this they have killed them in an unlawful way at their feeding-grounds. Instead of separating and killing the young bachelor seals, who are tiresome fellows, and hang round the colonies annoying and fighting the father seals who are trying to bring up their families, the sealers have entered the colonies or rookeries themselves, and slaughtered the mothers, leaving hundreds and thousands of motherless puppies behind to die for want of proper care (see p. 736).

Because of this the seal herd has been decreasing so rapidly that fear has arisen that it will disappear if the seals are not properly cared for.

The object of the conference is to decide whether the seal herd is really decreasing, and if so, to make

strict laws to protect the mother seals and their poor helpless little puppies.

A British war-ship, the *Wild Swan*, which is stationed in the Bering Sea to protect the sealing interests of Great Britain, has just arrived at Victoria, British Columbia.

The officers state that the seal herd is undoubtedly very much smaller this year; so small indeed that there is the gravest reason to fear that the seals are really dying out.

The Englishmen lay the blame of the smallness of the herd on the shoulders of Professor Jordan, and declare that it is due to the branding of the seals.

They insist that the seals who were branded last year were so badly frightened that they will not venture into the same waters again. Instead of coming to the Pribylov Islands, the officers say that they have made their way to some other islands north of Japan, and that the Japanese are reaping the benefit of Professor Jordan's experiment.

The British officers also say that the electric apparatus which Dr. Jordan took with him this year has proved to be a failure, and that the branding has had to be done with hot irons as usual. Trouble with the apparatus caused considerable delay, and according to the story told by the officers of the *Wild Swan*, only a few pups have been branded.

This news makes the conference all the more necessary. If there are no means of marking the female seals without frightening the herd away from their feeding-grounds, the different countries interested in the sealing trade should lose no time in coming to an understanding, that the herd may be preserved.

The Japanese and Russian representatives are already on their way here, but the meeting cannot be held until the beginning of November, as Sir Julian Pauncefote, who will attend the conference on behalf of England, cannot arrive here before that time.

We shall, in all probability, gain much interesting information about seals and seal life from this convention.



SEVERAL fresh meetings have been held in Athens to protest against the treaty of peace with Turkey. It is said that the people are becoming more violent, and are calling upon the King of Greece to continue the war.

At one of the meetings the other day, angry things were said about the King and the Crown Prince, the people blaming them for the unfortunate results of the war.

The cabinet ministers and the more thoughtful people in Greece are, however, of opinion that the best thing to be done is to bear, as best they may, the burdens which it puts on the country.

The Russian Minister in Athens has laid the treaty officially before the Greek minister of foreign affairs, and now all the necessary formalities have been gone through, and it only remains for the Greek parliament to accept or refuse the terms offered.

The Russian minister sent a note with the treaty, saying that the Sultan considered the Powers had done all that they could to restore peace, and he now waited for Greece to send her ministers to Constantinople to arrange the final document which will bind

the two countries. The Russian minister also stated that the Powers offered to assist at the meetings, in case any fresh difficulties should arise.

You must not imagine from this that there are to be two treaties of peace. There will of course be but one; however, lest you should be confused as to how it is that the Powers, having arranged a treaty which was signed by Turkey, are now conveying a message to Greece asking her to send her ministers to arrange another treaty, it is best to explain the matter to you.

The business of the Powers was to find out on what terms the Sultan was willing to make peace with Greece. They had no right to promise that Greece would accept the terms Turkey offered; they could only use their influence to have the terms as easy as possible.

The terms of peace being agreed upon between the Sultan and the Powers, they signed their names to the document, to show that they meant to keep their promises.

The signing of this paper does not necessarily mean that the final treaty of peace is to be exactly like it, but merely that the Sultan is willing to agree that the frontier shall be laid out as has been agreed upon with the Powers, the Greeks to pay not less than a certain sum, and Thessaly to be evacuated (the Turkish troops withdrawn from it) not later than a certain date.

On this basis Turkey and Greece will meet, and draw up the final treaty, which both sovereigns will sign, and which will bind them to carry out all it provides.

The Boulé, the Greek parliament, will have met in

a few days, and will have to decide whether the terms offered by Turkey shall be accepted or not.

It is reported that the Greek Government will resign. None of the ministers wish to remain in power, and be held responsible for accepting the treaty.

It is supposed that the Boulé will vote to accept the peace offer, and that the excitement among the people will gradually die out. It would of course be madness for King George to try and continue the war, because he has neither soldiers, generals, nor the necessary money.

The Turkish people are as jubilant and happy as the Greeks are angry and depressed.

It is openly said that the Sultan has been so successful about the peace negotiations that there is very little doubt that he will be able to arrange the matter of Crete in a manner that will be pleasing to all his subjects.

This may be only idle talk, or it may be, as we told you last week, that the Sultan does not intend to keep his word about Crete. It looks as if the island, for which Greece sacrificed herself, will not get home rule after all, but will be forced back into the old state of slavery from which King George tried to rescue her.



**F**ROM India we hear the good news that the British forces have captured the camp and village which formed the headquarters of the Haddah Mullah, and that the Mullah had to flee before the approach of the English.

Some people think that this defeat of the Mullah will have the effect of bringing the insurrection to a close, but it is as well not to put too much faith in this idea. We had a report a few days ago that the rebellion was over, and the very next week the British met with a severe repulse.

It is certain that the capture of the Mullah's camp has had a good effect on the natives.

The British were so confident that good results would follow it, that they ordered a two-days' armistice; that is to say, they stopped fighting the rebels for two days, to give them an opportunity to submit.

The Mohmands did take advantage of the chance offered them, and the British think they are entirely subdued. The Afridis and Orakzais are, however, as rebellious as ever.

These tribes refused to submit to the British, and instead sent messengers to the Ameer of Afghanistan, asking him to help them.

They have spread a report among the hill tribes that the Ameer has asked hostages from them, and will help them if the hostages are given.

A hostage is a person given and held under the laws of war, as a pledge.

For instance, if this report is true about the Ameer, it means that he has asked that they shall give into his hands certain important leaders of tribes, whose lives and liberty are very precious to the Afridis. These people to be held by him until the war is over, as a guarantee that he will receive his compensation for helping them to fight the British.

Hostages are always persons of high rank, and



NATIVE SOLDIERS IN INDIA.

persons whose lives are so precious that their people will not allow them to be sacrificed.

The giving of hostages is therefore considered the most binding form of agreement between savage peoples.

In this instance, however, the story that the Ameer demanded hostages does not appear to be true.

A later despatch says that the messengers sent by the Afridis and Orakzais were turned back at Jelalabad, and ordered to leave the country.

The principal request they had to make of the Ameer was that he would give them ammunition; bullets, gunpowder, and cartridges.

The fact that the Ameer sent them back without granting them an audience has convinced the British that he is sincere in declaring himself friendly to that nation.

The mullahs, or priests, have been persuading the people that the Ameer would help them as soon as the revolution was firmly established. It is these same mullahs who are responsible for the suspicions the English had of the Ameer.

It is said that the tribesmen are just beginning to understand that the Ameer does not mean to help them, and that they have only themselves to look to, to support their rebellion against England.



THERE is a report from Cuba that the Spaniards have reconquered the town of Las Tunas. This, however, seems hard to believe. Only last week reliable information was sent to us, that, owing to the impossibility of sparing enough men to guard



the town, the Cubans had decided to destroy it, and had accordingly burnt it to the ground.

The Carlists are daily assuming a more threatening attitude.

In the hope of quieting the people, who have become fearful lest a civil war should break out, the Government spread a report that Don Carlos had given up his claim to the throne of Spain, and that there was no fear that he would cause any trouble.

Don Carlos, however, caused a letter to be published throughout Spain, in which he denied the story, and said he was only waiting until the proper time arrived to come forward. He added that one hundred thousand volunteers were ready to take up arms for him at his call.

Side by side with this unwelcome announcement comes the news that there is fresh trouble in the Spanish Cabinet.

Señor Reverter, the Spanish minister of finance, that is to say, the minister who has charge of the money affairs of Spain, has been excommunicated by the Church of Rome.

This minister has had a very hard battle to fight against the poverty of his country, and her pressing need for money.

In his anxiety to help her he committed the unwarrantable act of seizing money belonging to one of the churches, and using it for the Government.

The Church protested against this robbery, but the minister declared that the Government must have the money she needed, and, in spite of the indignation of the churchmen, proceeded to take it.

Finding that they could get no help from the Gov-

ernment, the members of the church appealed to the Bishop who had charge of the district in which the plundered church was situated.

The anger of this bishop knew no bounds. He would not allow the Church to be so shamefully robbed, and sent an angry demand to the minister that he refund the money instantly.

Señor Reverter declined to do so, saying that the country had need of it, and upon his refusal the Bishop, without more ado, excommunicated him.

Excommunication is a terrible punishment to inflict on any one. It means that the sinner cannot enjoy any of the privileges of the Church, and that he is forbidden all its comforts and blessings. Further than that, it almost amounts to boycotting (see p. 998), for all churchmen who do business with an excommunicated man, or serve him, are put under the ban of the Church, and become outcasts with him. So that at one blow a man loses friends and servants, and even has difficulty in getting food and clothing.

It is said that the Pope was extremely angry with the bishop for having taken such a serious step without first consulting him.

This power of the Church is very rarely exercised, and while a bishop has the right to inflict this punishment on a member of his flock, he is not supposed to do so without first consulting with the Pope, especially when important personages are involved.

His Holiness was therefore most exasperated to find that the bishop of Majorca had ventured on such a step without his permission. He has, however, no ground for refusing to uphold the bishop, so the sen-

tence will have to stand, but it is rumored that he intends to show his displeasure by removing the bishop to another diocese where the work will be harder, and the income not so large.

Napoleon Bonaparte was excommunicated by Pope Pius VII. in 1809, but since that time the punishment has hardly ever been inflicted, and it is thought that at the present time, when Spain is in so much trouble, the bishop should have sought some less severe measure to bring the minister to terms.

It is of course a terrible thing for Spain that one of her highest ministers should be so punished and disgraced.

It was hoped that Señor Reverter would resign his office, and so save the Government any further trouble. This, however, he refuses to do, and the members of his department are in sympathy with his defiance of the Church.

It is said that friends are trying to persuade the bishop to forgive the minister, and withdraw the sentence, if he consents to resign at the end of the year.

The bishop is not willing to do anything of the kind. He thinks that if the Government is allowed to plunder one church without punishment, all the wealth belonging to the Church will soon be seized and taken possession of by the crown.

This unfortunate affair has brought fresh trouble on poor Queen Christina.

The Government, which has been in a very uncertain condition since the death of Canovas, has been unable to oppose the excommunication of Señor Reverter.

General Azcarraga, the Prime Minister, has offered his resignation to the Queen, and asked her to form a fresh Cabinet. He says he is no longer able to control the affairs of state.

This is the worst thing that could have happened at this moment. The only man who seems fit to lead



QUEEN CHRISTINA OF SPAIN.

the Government is Señor Sagasta, but, as we have told you before, he has very liberal views about Cuba.

If he comes into office there is little doubt but that he will recall General Weyler, and offer home rule to the island, if he does not accept our offer of arranging terms whereby Cuba can purchase the island for herself.

While this policy is very pleasing to the friends of Cuba, the majority of the Spaniards are unwilling to give up the island unless it is taken from them by force.

Don Carlos knows this, and so has declared himself in favor of keeping General Weyler where he is, and pressing the war still more severely till the rebels are forced to give in.

The chances are that if Señor Sagasta comes to power there will be a Carlist rising, and the young King Alphonse will lose his throne.

On the other hand, there seems to be no leader, strong enough to guide the country, who believes in carrying out Canovas' policy, and as far as the poor harassed Queen can see, the speedy subduing of Cuba is the only policy that will please the people and keep her boy on the throne.

A number of Spanish war-ships have been sent to Cuban waters. It is said that they are there to help moor the floating dock in some place of safety until it can be brought into Havana Bay.

The dock, however, has not yet arrived in Cuba, and it is whispered that the real object of the visit of these ships is to be in readiness in case war is declared between the United States and Spain.

The Spaniards are very angry with us just now, and the Madrid papers publish statements which assert that there is no possibility of avoiding the war.

They think that we sympathize with the Cubans, and would be so glad to see Cuba free that we are helping the insurgents to defy them.

They will not believe that General Woodford's mission to Spain is peaceful and kindly meant. In

spite of the statement made by the Duke of Tetuan about the friendliness of the meeting, the Madrid papers insist that the United States sent an ultimatum to Spain, which means that she sent a message, that either the war must be immediately brought to a close, or we would fight her.

There are rumors that Austria will join with Spain, in case such a war should break out. The Queen Regent was an Austrian princess before she became Queen of Spain, and therefore the Spaniards think that Austria would be certain to help them.

There is little foundation for all this wild talk. We do not want a war with Spain, nor, for the matter of that, with any other nation. We would prefer to live in peace with all men. We cannot, however, see the struggle in Cuba without suffering grief and pain, and trying to do what we can to bring it to an end.

Both President McKinley and President Cleveland were most careful to keep on good terms with Spain, and the mission of General Woodford has been undertaken with the desire of being helpful to both Cuba and Spain.

All our friendship for one party or the other cannot blind us to the fact that Spain is losing ground in Cuba.

Despite our care, and the watchfulness of the gunboats stationed along the coast, expeditions are constantly leaving our shores and taking supplies to the rebels from their friends over here. The cause seems stronger than ever, and it seems merely a waste of men and money to prolong the struggle.

Our President, understanding this, and seeing how Spain is harassed in other ways with the Carlists,

and the Government, and the war in the Philippine Islands, thinks this is a good time to try and make peace.

It is quite sure that General Woodford has said nothing to anger Spain, but it has not been thought advisable to publish the note which he presented, and so it is not possible to tell you just what he did say.

It is supposed, however, that the note contained an offer to make peace between the combatants on the ground of the purchase of Cuba by the Cubans, the United States to guarantee the payment of the sum of money agreed upon.

General Woodford has cabled to the State Department asking permission to publish the contents of the note he gave the Duke of Tetuan.

The President is considering the matter, and will probably call a Cabinet council to discuss it before anything is decided.

In the mean time, the Spanish are in such an excited state that the Government of Spain fears for the safety of our minister. A special guard was therefore ordered to accompany him from San Sebastian to Madrid.

On his arrival at Madrid, the guard, which had travelled with him on the train, again took him in charge, and conducted him safely to the American legation.

It is to be hoped that this angry feeling will soon subside, and that the Spaniards may allow the United States to show that her only wish in the matter of Cuba is to do what is just and right for all parties concerned.

The resignation of the Spanish ministry will of

course delay the answer to our letter, as it would be wrong for the Government to press for an answer while affairs are so unsettled in Spain.



**A**USTRIA has been having her share of excitement during the past week.

On the opening of the parliament in Vienna, a disgraceful scene was made by the members of the lower house.

The session was to be opened by the Premier, Count Badeni. When he entered the hall he was greeted with howls and hisses, and cries of derision.

For certain reasons, which we will explain later, the Premier is at present very unpopular with the parliament, and so the members greeted him in this shameful manner, and finally one of the members, becoming more excited than the others, advanced toward the Premier, and began calling him names.

The result has been a duel between the member, Dr. Wolff, and the Premier, and the occurrence has raised a storm throughout the country, for that a Prime Minister should fight a duel with another member of the Government is an unheard-of thing.

Austria is a very difficult nation to govern, and the position of premier is by no means a bed of roses.

The reason of the difficulty is that Austria is composed of so many different states which have very little in common with each other.

In all, there are three great divisions: the Austrians proper, who are Germans in their leaning and language; the Hungarians, or Magyars, who are a haughty, fierce people, speaking their own tongue,



proud of their traditions, and who look down on the more modern Austrians as upstarts. Besides these there are the Bohemians or Czechs (cheks), who speak still another language, and are a wild and quickly irritated people, obstinate, and as a rule slow-witted.

It is but natural that one or other of these people should be constantly offended at the course of the Government, and see in every new law an attempt to rob them of their rights and privileges.

The great trouble at present is the variety of the languages spoken. An attempt has been made by the Government to enforce the speaking of German throughout Austria. A law was passed making German the language in which all official business must be carried on; but to make it perfectly fair for the Hungarians and Bohemians as well as for the Austrians, the law provided that all officers of the Government who were stationed in districts where Czech or Magyar was spoken must be able to speak these tongues as well as German.

This law is intensely unpopular.

The Austrians want one language throughout the country, and are indignant at having to learn the Czech and Magyar, which are both frightfully difficult; some people laughingly declare that Czech is as hard to learn as Chinese. The Bohemians and Hungarians, on the other hand, do not wish their languages to die out, and they think that it would be only right to allow them to use their own tongue for official business throughout Bohemia and Hungary.

They have become so violently opposed to the law, that they have been making a great effort to revive their language, and have established a literature of

their own, and are having the Czech language taught in the schools. In Prague and many of the cities of Bohemia, no other language is spoken.

Now Count Badeni, who has the difficult task of handling all these fiery people, has got into disgrace all around.

The Austrians are angry with him because in a certain place, and for a certain occasion, he allowed the Bohemians to use their own language for official business. The Bohemians are angry with him for having forbidden a certain public meeting; and others are again incensed against the Prime Minister for having offended them in various, apparently unimportant ways.

It was on account of his unpopularity and the various quarrels with him that he was so badly treated by the members of the parliament, and was finally so exasperated that he determined to fight a duel.

In Austria it is a criminal offence to fight a duel, and all the persons engaged in an affair of the kind can be imprisoned for from one to five years.

The Prime Minister, however, felt that he had been so terribly insulted that nothing but a duel could satisfy his sense of honor.

He therefore telegraphed to the Emperor, asking his permission to fight.

Duelling used to be a very common practice in Europe, and was considered the only means of avenging an insult. It was, however, carried to such an extent, that men would call one another out, as it was termed, for the most trifling offence. So many good and brave men were killed in this unreasonable

manner, that one country after another began to make laws forbidding the practice. These laws have only been in force for a very few years, and in cases where men are terribly provoked, they still turn to duelling as a means of settling their disputes.

The Emperor of Austria, when he learnt of the shameful things that had been said to the Count, felt that, were he in the Premier's place, nothing but a duel could satisfy his honor, and so he gave his permission, and the duel took place.

Count Badeni was shot in the arm, and severely wounded; Dr. Wolff escaped unhurt.

Immediately the duel had taken place the Premier's enemies seized upon it as a means of disgracing him.

They raised a tumult about it, and declared that a man who would break the law by fighting a duel was not fit to manage the affairs of Government, and begged that the Count be dismissed from office, and arrested.

The Premier was, however, well aware of the serious nature of the act he contemplated, and that duelling was not a becoming occupation for a Prime Minister, so, when he asked the Emperor's permission to fight, he also sent in his resignation as Prime Minister.

The Emperor of Austria appears to be a very fair-minded man. Having given his permission for the duel, he was not going to desert the Count.

He refused to accept the Count's resignation, and, as a reply to the enemies of his Prime Minister, issued a decree forbidding the courts from prosecuting the Count for breaking the law.

Such a decree would not do for us in America,

where the law is the highest power in the state, and even the President is bound to obey it; but in Austria, where such a thing was possible, it was certainly very considerate of the Emperor to stand so bravely by his minister.

Duelling is also against the laws of the Church, and the Count might have got into fresh trouble with his bishop if kind friends had not helped him in this direction also.

His case was represented to the Pope, who also recognized that he had been terribly tried and provoked, and graciously pardoned him.

Despite the efforts of his enemies, he has been able to make peace with both his emperor and his bishop, and though he will not have a pleasant time of it with such a parliament against him, he ought to be able to overcome his difficulties with two such powerful friends behind him.



THERE was a delightful celebration the other afternoon in New York at East River and Twenty-fourth Street.

It was the occasion of the opening of a new Recreation Pier, and the children were out in force to take possession of their newly acquired property.

When the present dock commissioners came into office they found an old law on the books of the city which had never been put in force.

It provided that the dock commissioners could build an upper deck to any of the piers which jutted out into the river, and arrange it for the use of the people as a recreation pier, a place where the chil-

dren could walk and run and romp and play, and the mothers could take the babies for a breath of fresh air on the summer nights, when their work was done.

Finding the law on the books, these kindly men determined to carry it out, and so they built the pier at the foot of Third Street; and, when that was fin-



RECREATION PIER

ished, began work on the one at East Twenty-fourth Street, which was opened the other day.

There are to be five of these piers in all—two on the west side, and three on the east.

The pier was opened by the Mayor, amid much merry music and general good feeling.

At the head of the pier a wooden band-stand had been erected. This was gaily decked with flags, and filled with chairs for the city fathers, who were to come and make speeches and give the pier to the people.

Seats had been set aside for the children, and the little ones flocked to them in hundreds, seeming to feel that this pier was for their especial benefit. They crowded every entrance, eagerly waiting for the moment when the city should give the new building to the people.

Presently the Mayor, Colonel O'Brien, and several others walked down the pier. Colonel O'Brien is the chief of the dock commissioners who have worked so faithfully to give the people this pleasure.

As the Mayor came down the aisle the little ones cheered and cheered, and the big people joined them, and waved their handkerchiefs, and it was quite an exciting moment.

Then the party mounted the decorated stand, and in a few pleasant words the Mayor presented the gift of the city to the people.

He was followed by several other speakers, among them Mr. John Proctor Clarke, who said some very nice things to the children.

He began by leaving the benches where the guests were seated, and walking across the stand until he was as near to the children as possible, for he said that what he had to say was intended for them, and not for the grown-ups, and so he wanted them to hear him clearly.

"The Mayor," he said, "has given this pier to you; but do not think he has given it as a charity. He has given it to me as well as to you, he has given it to all the people who are here to-day, and all the people in the city of New York, not as a charity to us, but because now that the city has finished it, it belongs to us by right as citizens of this town.

"The city has given us the use of this pier, and promises to keep it swept and clean, and in good repair for us, but it is ours; we own it, it belongs to us as citizens.

"Now what do we do with the things that belong to us? Do we throw them away, or destroy them? We take care of them so that they may last, don't we?

"Yes. Well, that's all I have to say to you about this pier. It is yours. Take care of it."

The new pier is one of the largest of the five that are to surround the city. It is roofed over, so that those who wish to enjoy it are sheltered from the sun.

It is seven hundred and twenty feet long, and fifty feet wide. Plenty large enough for crowds of people to use it in comfort.

The pier juts farther out into the river than any of the neighboring docks, and at its end there is a fine view up and down the river.

Mayor Strong made a suggestion during the ceremonies that met with great favor.

He said that he thought it would be a very nice thing to put glass sides into the pier, and heat it. He thought it would make a grand hall for the people of the district to use for meetings in winter, as well as promenading in summer.

These five recreation piers are likely to prove a great blessing to the city. The people who know most about such things have learned that to keep boys and girls good they must be made happy. One of the easiest ways to make them happy is to give them plenty of places where they can romp and play in the fresh air and sunshine.

G. H. ROSENFELD.

## INVENTION AND DISCOVERY.

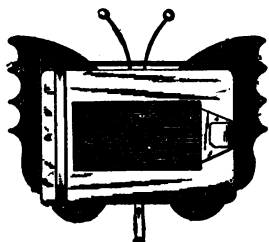
**STORM FRONT FOR VEHICLES.**—For those who live in the country and do much driving in the winter, this storm front is a capital scheme.

It is made on the same plan as the glass front of the new hansom cabs which have been introduced into this country within the last few years.

The front is made in one solid piece. There are two little glass windows in it, to enable the occupants of the buggy to see out. When it is not in use it is pulled up over the heads of the riders, and when the storm comes on a cord lets it down in front of them.

It is so adjusted that the driver can handle the reins under it, and while it might not be safe to drive a skittish horse with it down, still for the ordinary use in the country it will be a great comfort.

**COMBINED PURSE, PARCEL-CARRIER, AND BUCKLE.**—This is an ingenious device. Arranged in the form of a buckle for a waist-belt, it



answers the several purposes of purse, parcel-carrier, and buckle.

The picture you see represents the back of the



buckle; the front being in the form of a pretty butterfly.

From the lower side of the clasp a strong hook is suspended. This hook is a patent hook, opening to catch the strings of parcels, and snapping tightly together again.

A little snap on the under side of one of the wings opens, and the body of the butterfly turns back and reveals a neat little purse, large enough for car fare or railroad tickets.

The buckle is principally intended for the use of bicyclists who need to utilize every scrap of space, but for ordinary wear it is neat and attractive as well as useful.

G. H. R.

### FIRST PRIZE CONTEST.

IT has been difficult to separate carefully the best two lists from among the two hundred and odd received in the FIRST PRIZE COMPETITION. However, a very careful canvass of them has been made, and it has been found that as many as ten were complete lists. Naturally, those who sent in first receive the prizes, and we are pleased to announce that the first prize goes to Miss Marguerite Metivier, Greenwood Ave., Waltham, Mass., and the second prize to Walter L. Solomon, 344 West 145th Street. If they will write us their choice of the prizes, we will send them immediately.

# THE GREAT ROUND WORLD



AND WHAT IS GOING ON IN IT.

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THE new Prime Minister of Spain is Señor Sagasta. After several days of uncertainty the Queen decided to appoint him.

No sooner was her decision known than a report was circulated that Weyler had sent in his resignation; it was also rumored that Sagasta had stated that one of his first official acts would be to remove Weyler from Cuba.

The truth of the matter is that Weyler does not intend to leave the island if he can help it.

Just before the ministry resigned, when it was known that they could not remain in power many days longer, he hurried off a long report of the work he had done in Cuba; this he hoped would help him with the new Minister, and enable him to keep his place.

In this report he said that Western Cuba was pacified, and that he had effected a great improvement in the condition of Cuba since his arrival there. He stated that he had given Cuba a fresh lease of life,

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that trains were running regularly throughout the island, the telegraph was in working order, and the troops, in spite of the fact that their pay was six months in arrears, were in excellent health and spirits. Every one of these statements is declared, by those who are in a position to know the real state of affairs in Cuba, to be absolutely false.

Having this letter safely in the hands of the Government, the General waited for developments; then as soon as the ministry under General Azcarraga had gone out of office and that of Señor Sagasta had come in, he cabled to the new Prime Minister, saying that he had no intention of resigning his office, but instead, begged to offer his services to the new ministry.

A great excitement is being worked up over him in Cuba, which his enemies declare is being done by his orders. Soldiers are parading the streets, crying, "Long live Weyler!" Merchants are hurrying to the palace, begging him not to resign, and a rumor having been circulated that it is the United States that has been asking that he be sent away from Cuba, the soldiers are adding cries of "Death to the United States!"

The Cuban and American residents of Havana are terror-stricken. Much as they desired to be free of the tyrant, they now dread his downfall lest it shall cause more trouble for them.

It is said that Señor Sagasta will try to bring the war to a close by offering liberal terms of Home Rule to Cuba.

In fact, the new cabinet has already held a council in which it was agreed to establish reforms in the island with as little delay as possible.

The Colonial Minister has been instructed to pre-

pare a draft of the scheme for Home Rule, and to have it ready to present to the cabinet officers at their next meeting.

The Cubans, however, declare that they do not want Home Rule. They have been fighting for freedom, and nothing less will satisfy them. They are willing to buy their freedom from Spain, but they declare that they will never lay down their arms until Cuba is free.

A despatch from the Philippine Islands brings the news that Spain is faring badly in that direction also.

In a recent battle four hundred Spanish soldiers were killed. It seems that the rebels in the Philippines fight in the American Indian fashion; that is to say, they get under cover, behind bushes or trees, and, taking careful aim at their enemy, make every shot tell. In this manner they are able to inflict great injury without suffering much themselves.

It is reported that an entire battalion of Spanish soldiers, eight hundred strong, has deserted in a body to the rebels.

The soldiers in the Philippines are suffering just as severely for food and pay as their brother soldiers in Cuba, and finding that the rebels feed their soldiers well, and treat them better than the Spaniards, great numbers are constantly deserting and joining the rebel ranks.



Affairs in Greece are still unsettled.

When the Prime Minister told the Boulé\* or parliament the terms of the treaty, there was much dissatisfaction expressed by the members.

\* Pronounced *voulee*.

M. Ralli, the Prime Minister, stated that he was fully aware how hard the terms of the treaty were, but he thought that Greece must accept and make the best of them.

He told the Boulé that it was not possible for Greece to continue the war; she had neither men nor money to do it with; but he wished it understood that he was merely stating his opinion; he would not attempt to advise the nation on such a serious point.

If the Boulé decided to accept the terms offered by Turkey, he stated that the ministry was prepared to carry them out, and do all in its power to assist the country in the crisis; he, however, asked the Boulé, on behalf of the ministry, for a vote of confidence, that is, an expression of belief that the ministers were doing the best that could be done for the good of the country.

When Mr. Ralli had finished speaking, a member of the House rose to his feet, and began to blame the ministry for all the ills that Greece was called upon to endure. This turned the members against Mr. Ralli and the rest of the ministers, and the vote of confidence was refused. Mr. Ralli was thereupon obliged to send his resignation to the King.

King George has already chosen the new Premier, and a Greek prince of high rank has been selected to go to Constantinople and arrange the treaty, the Boulé having decided to accept the terms offered.

Both Spain and Greece now have new ministers who are undertaking the difficult task of piloting their countries through their difficulties.



It was just as well that we did not put too much

faith in the story that the war on the Indian frontier would be ended with the defeat of the Haddah Mullah.

News has reached us that the British forces have once again been checked by the tribesmen.

This time it was the Mohmads who were the victors. These men, if you remember, professed themselves ready to submit to English rule, and when the troops arrived in their neighborhood, offered their allegiance to the British officers.

They were, however, told that to prove their good faith they must, one and all, give up their rifles. Upon hearing this they became sulky, and refused to do anything of the sort.

The British waited the two days they had promised, and then began to destroy the villages of the rebellious tribesmen. On one of these expeditions they were in turn attacked by the Afridis, and defeated.

In the meanwhile the Ameer of Aghanistan is uneasy over the advance of the British into the hills that form his frontier. He is afraid that the British will not be satisfied with punishing the tribesmen, but will endeavor to take possession of lands belonging to him. He has therefore sought the aid of Russia, and has obtained the Czar's promise to help him in case the British attempt to encroach on Aghanistan.

He is at the same time keeping faith with the English. He has issued a proclamation, forbidding his subjects to leave the country under penalty of a heavy fine, so that it will not be possible for them to go and join the tribesmen. He is doing all in his power to keep faith with England, but it is said that he is

much pleased that he has secured the aid of Russia to protect him in case of need.



In the Soudan, the English are steadily advancing on Khartoum.

The Mahdists are making a strong stand there, and it is expected that the decisive battle will be fought in the near neighborhood of that city.

A newspaper correspondent who is with the Soudan expedition writes a most interesting account of the rapid way the soldiers are building a railroad across the desert. The road is being finished at the rate of nearly two miles a day, and when completed will enable the army to bring men and supplies from Cairo in a few days instead of the many weary weeks which are now required.

The building of the railway through the desert has been entrusted to the engineer corps. These engineers are soldiers whose duty it is to build fortifications, railroads, bridges, or any works which the commander of the force may think necessary.

In building a railroad the first thing to be done is to prepare the road-bed, so that it will not give way under the weight of the trains that are to pass over it. This is done by digging out or banking up the earth so that the bed shall be level. When the earth-bank has been made as high and as solid as necessary, huge wooden beams, called sleepers, are placed across it at regular intervals, and on these sleepers the rails are laid.

The correspondent describes the laying of the rails as follows:

"A great sight was the actual work of laying the line. We went out in a car drawn by a spare engine, to see this at the place where the work was in progress. The second construction train had reached the scene of active operations just before we arrived, and the desert fairly hummed with busy turmoil. It has been given but to few to see a railway line made and used while you wait. Yet we had that experience on this afternoon. Everything was done at once. The long train moves slowly toward the end of the rails, getting as near to the bare bank as is possible. So soon as she stops, an eager army of workers attack her, with, of course, much wild noise of strange rhythmic chant. To the uninitiated this onslaught of the workers on the train bears all the appearance of a raid, yet, should one watch awhile, it gradually dawns upon one that marvellous orderliness and most studied method underlie every seemingly wild movement. The engine stops—say, ten rail lengths from the end of the track—and the game begins. The rail-cars are in front, just behind the tender, with the rails neatly ranged on racks. At once to either side of each rail-car rushes a party of, if Egyptians, eight men, if blacks, ten, upon whose padded shoulders the ton of sun-heated metal is placed by the car party. Then they run—they do literally run—away with the unwieldy thing to its destined place, where, once it is placed on the sleepers, the gaugers and strikers get at it, and it is put in position and pinned (to each alternate sleeper, the operation being completed after the heavy train has passed over the newly laid rails) in an incredibly short time, at the end of which a bugle sounds, the steam whistle blows, the



engine moves slowly forward over the rails that less than five minutes ago were stacked on the cars behind her, and the whole operation is repeated."



Hawaiian affairs continue to progress peacefully, notwithstanding the fact that the story of Japanese soldiers being introduced in Hawaii disguised as laborers has been confirmed by so many people that our Governemnt has no longer any doubt of its truth.

Orders have therefore been sent to the commander of the fleet at Honolulu to be on the alert, and in case Japan should attempt any hostile movement to land a company of marines and sailors, run up the American flag, and take possession of the island in the name of the United States.

The gunboats *Wheeling* and *Concord* have been sent to the Sandwich Islands, and a cruiser and several gunboats will be kept at Honolulu until all fear of trouble is over.

The Japanese ship, the *Naniwa*, has gone back to her own country to be cleaned and repaired, but will return to Hawaii as soon as this has been done.

During her absence our Government is taking advantage of the opportunity to make some necessary changes in the ships stationed at Honolulu, and when the Japanese cruiser returns she will find quite a fleet of American ships waiting to receive her.

A statement has been made that the Japanese Government is willing to settle the immigration dispute with Hawaii for \$100,000.

Hawaii is not anxious to make any such arrangement. She is a little afraid that if she consents to

do so, Japan will declare that she is bound in future to let in as many Japanese immigrants as the Mikado chooses to send. She is anxious to reserve the right



of declaring what citizens she will allow within her boundaries.

The annexation of the islands is by some people regarded as assured.

The Senators and Congressmen who have visited the islands declare that there is no opposition to the idea. Some few followers of the Queen Liliuokalani would prefer to have her once more on the throne rather than to be under the government of a foreign president, but there is no serious opposition to the treaty.

With this news comes the information that Mr. Spreckels, the Sugar King of Hawaii, has offered to withdraw his opposition to the treaty when he is con-

vinced that his rights in the island are not to be interfered with.

Mr. Spreckels is a millionaire who has made most of his money through his vast sugar interests in the Sandwich Islands. He was so afraid that his business would be hurt by annexation, that he threatened to spend half his fortune to prevent it.

Besides his sugar interests, he owns a line of steamers between Hawaii and San Francisco, and he controlled so many votes in Hawaii that he was a dangerous enemy to the project.

President Dole of the Sandwich Islands has been endeavoring to break Mr. Spreckels' power, but has made very little progress until the other day, when he granted permission to one of the Pacific mail steamers to enter into competition with Mr. Spreckels' boats for the carrying trade of the islands. The permission stated that the President would allow the Pacific Mail Company to increase the number of vessels on the line if they desired to do so.

This was a dreadful blow to Mr. Spreckels.

The carrying trade with Hawaii is hardly large enough for several companies to make money at it, and as the new line will endeavor by reduced rates and increased accommodations to get the trade away from Mr. Spreckels, the chances are that he will lose a good deal of money through it.

It is in consequence of this that he is reported to have promised not to oppose the annexation of Hawaii if his interests are not interfered with.

It is said that President Dole is so anxious that nothing shall interfere with the annexation treaty

that he is willing to promise Mr. Spreckels anything he asks in return for his assistance.



Central America is in a very disturbed condition once more.

Revolutions are in progress, or have just been suppressed in Guatemala, Costa Rica, and Nicaragua; and Honduras is again in an unsettled state.

In addition to this, there is bad feeling between Costa Rica and Nicaragua, which may break out into war at any moment.

As this last quarrel concerns the Nicaraguan Canal, in which our country is so much interested, it is perhaps better to tell you about it before we speak of the more serious troubles in Guatemala.

The cause of the unpleasantness between Nicaragua and Costa Rica is the boundary line which divides them.

This boundary question involves the mouth of the Nicaragua Canal.

In 1858 it was agreed between the two countries that the channel of the Rio San Juan del Norte at its exit into the ocean should be the dividing line between them.

Owing to changes of current and other causes, the course of this river has changed, until it is now several miles farther south than it was in 1858.

Costa Rica claimed that the boundary should be the spot where the old channel was; Nicaragua, that the treaty called for the channel of the river where it emptied itself into the sea, and that therefore the new mouth of the river is the boundary.

It is a serious matter for Nicaragua, for the opening to the Nicaragua Canal on the Atlantic Ocean side is through the Rio San Juan del Norte. If Costa Rica were to own the mouth of the canal while Nicaragua owns its body, there would be no end to the complications and troubles which would arise.

The matter was therefore submitted to arbitration, President Cleveland appointing the arbitrator.

The decision has just been rendered, and is against Costa Rica. The arbitrator decides that the old treaty holds good, and that the boundary line of Nicaragua is the channel of the river as it flows into the ocean, and that no matter how far the Rio San Juan del Norte creeps down into Costa Rican territory, Nicaragua will always own to the channel where it flows into the sea.

Costa Rica is of course angry that the decision was against her, and she may try to secure her lost territory by force of arms.

This is the Nicaraguan and Costa Rican trouble. The disturbance in Guatemala is in the shape of a revolution, which, if the accounts we hear are true, is of a serious nature.

We have told you before of the many revolutions that are constantly taking place in South America, and that the people have become so accustomed to them that they take very little notice of such things, and no one regards a Central American revolution as a serious affair.

Now while it is amusing to make fun of these toy revolutions, some of the best people of the country suffer severely through them, and to these people they are very real and terrible. Those who suffer

most are the merchants. During the disturbances caused by constant changes of government, trade cannot properly flourish, and many of the merchants of Central America wish heartily that a means may be found to restore order and give them a government which will be likely to last.

Some time ago a plan was made to form the five republics of Guatemala, Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua, and Costa Rica into one republic, under one government.

At this time Mexico objected to the plan. She was afraid that a strong republic at her doors might give her more trouble than she was likely to have from the five weak little countries.

Attempts were made to carry the plan through, but it was finally abandoned.

It was not, however, forgotten, and in January of this year the first step was taken toward such an arrangement, by the union of Nicaragua, Honduras, and Salvador, forming together the Greater Republic of Central America. It was hoped that Guatemala and Costa Rica would also join in, and in June of this year Guatemala did join the other republics.

Mexico still disapproved of the plan, and was not at all pleased that the Greater Republic of Central America had been formed.

The level-headed men of Central America then suggested that Mexico should be asked to join the union, and one vast Central American Republic be formed.

To this President Barrios of Guatemala objected. He is perhaps the most ambitious man in Central America, and undoubtedly aims to be the president of the Central American Republic. Were Mexico to

become a part of this great federation, Barrios would have a strong rival in the beloved President Diaz of Mexico, and so he steadfastly set his face against union with Mexico.

The friends of solid government were much disappointed at this, and it is stated on good authority that they then formed a plot, which has resulted in the present disturbances throughout Central America.

It was decided that as Barrios of Guatemala and Diaz of Mexico were opposed to the plan, they must both be removed from office as soon as it could be managed.

According to this story, Barrios was the first to give his enemies the opportunity they sought.

We have told you that he is a very ambitious man. In Guatemala presidents are elected for six years, and are not allowed to be re-elected.

President Barrios is very near the end of his term, and he could not bear to think that in a few months he would go out of office, and lose all chance of rising to the heights he wished to attain. He therefore had himself proclaimed dictator of Guatemala, and announced that he intended to have a law passed which would allow a president to be elected for a second term.

This meant of course that he intended to be elected again, and that it would be another six years before there was any hope of forming the federation.

The people of Guatemala strongly disapproved of Barrios' action in making himself a dictator instead of a president. A president is guided by the wishes of the legislature, and though he has the power to veto, or forbid the passing of, a law made by con-

gress, that body has also power to overrule his veto, and pass the laws in spite of him. So you see the power is pretty equally balanced. Then, too, a president can be impeached, or called to account, if he neglects the duties which he has agreed to fulfil.

With a dictator it is very different. He has absolute power in the government of the state. His word is law, and he is not accountable to the legislature for his actions.

A dictator is sometimes appointed in times of war or great trouble, but he should always be a man whom the people love and honor, and to whom they can entrust this great power.

The reason for appointing a dictator is, that not being accountable to the legislature for his actions, he is able to do as he thinks best, without waiting for the long delays that must follow the submission of plans to congress.

While the people were so opposed to the idea of giving these great powers to Barrios, it was thought to be a good opportunity to overthrow him, and so a revolution was begun, with Gen. Prosper Morales at its head.

This revolution has steadily grown stronger. Most of the important men in Guatemala have joined it, and success has attended the rebel arms.

They have captured one of the most important towns of the country, and it seems as if the overthrow of Barrios was assured.

If the rumors of this great plot are true, the revolution in Guatemala is but the commencement of the great rising which is to end in the formation of the new republic.



That there is some truth in these rumors is shown by the fact that a cowardly attempt which was made to kill President Diaz of Mexico, a short time ago, was found to be connected with the present disturbance in Guatemala.

It was found that the man who had attempted to do this wicked deed was the agent of some persons in Guatemala; and thinking that there was something strange in this, the Mexican authorities handed the prisoner over to one of the highest police officials, with orders to keep him under close guard until further inquiries could be made.

The man to whom the criminal was given in charge was General Velasquez, one of the most trusted officials of the Government.

In the middle of the night after this arrest, pistol shots were heard coming from the place where the prisoner was confined, and when the soldiers ran out from their barracks, they were informed by General Velasquez that a mob had broken into the prison and killed the prisoner.

A crowd had meanwhile gathered round the prison, so the soldiers arrested every one in sight; but when these people came to be examined they were found to be only citizens who had been attracted by the sound of the firing, just as the soldiers had been. The men who had broken into the jail and killed the prisoner had disappeared.

The matter had by this assumed such a suspicious character that the authorities decided to arrest General Velasquez, and hold him until something could be found out.

A few inquiries showed that the General and the

man who had tried to kill President Diaz were both connected with Guatemala, and members of some society there.

This suspicion was considerably strengthened when the General was found dead in his prison, the morning after his arrest. People then said that both men were concerned in the great plot, and that both had died rather than be forced to confess.

All Mexico is very much puzzled and troubled over this mysterious occurrence.



The meteorite has been safely landed, and is now on the dock at the Brooklyn Navy-Yard, where it is to remain until Lieutenant Peary decides what he will do with it.

In appearance it is a smooth, mud-colored rock, that looks like a great boulder. The meteorite is ten feet long, eight feet wide, and six feet thick. It weighs over ninety tons.

It was no easy matter to get this great stone on board the *Hope*. It lay a short distance from the shore, and the sailors had to drag it to the water's edge.

As soon as the *Hope* arrived in Melville Bay, where the meteorite was found, the whole crew, armed with shovels and picks, went ashore and began digging around it.

The job of digging it out of the frozen ground was enough to have discouraged these men at the outset. It was half covered with snow, and frozen solidly to the surrounding earth. The sailors had to dig through seven feet of frozen ground before they finally reached the lower surface of the meteorite, then more digging

followed, and at last, after five days of this hard work, it was free and ready to be moved.

By means of some strong derricks which they had brought for the purpose, the monster was finally lifted and dragged to the shore.

Here another kind of derrick, made like those that are used for lifting heavy guns on board ship, was brought into service, and the mass of metal was slowly lifted and lowered into the hold.

The ship had been lightened as much as possible to make room for this enormous weight, but for all that the vessel was sunk much too deep in the water for safety when she finally started on her homeward journey.

Scientists say that the meteorite is a mass of metal, and is practically composed of material similar to the steel armor used for armor-plates. All are agreed that it is the largest meteorite ever discovered.

Lieutenant Peary also brought back with him a party of Esquimaux, who are to spend the winter building an Arctic exhibit for the Natural History Museum. The materials they will use have all been brought back by Mr. Peary. They are to build a little scene which will show the Esquimaux in their national costume, occupied in some of the typical Arctic employments. The figures that will illustrate these pictures will be modelled after the Esquimaux themselves.

There are six Esquimaux in the party brought back on the *Hope*—three men, a woman, a boy, and a girl. They, men and women alike, wear trousers of polar-bear skins, sealskin coats, moccasins made from tanned sealskins, and fur hoods.

To make them more comfortable, Lieutenant Peary had allowed them to pitch a tent for themselves on the deck, and here the family was established, in company with their four favorite dogs, from whom they could not bear to be parted. These dogs are very useful in the polar regions. They can draw sledges over the ice, and are used by the natives much as the people of warmer climates use horses.

Lieutenant Peary also brought back with him some relics of the unfortunate Greely expedition which went to the Arctic regions in 1881, to establish an observation station for our Government. Owing to the non-arrival of expected supplies, the Greely party suffered the most terrible hardships, and was eventually rescued at Cape Sabine in Grinnel Land in 1883, after eighteen of the party had perished from cold and hunger.

Greely established the station, and, after his rescue, was raised to the rank of general, and was given a special government appointment for his services.

When Lieutenant Peary arrived in New York, he was asked whether he thought that Andrée had been able to reach the Pole in his balloon.

He said that he feared it had not been possible for him to do so. According to all he could hear, the winds had been unfavorable all summer, and the chances were that the adventurer had been carried in an opposite direction to the one he had intended to take.

In regard to his being rescued and ever reaching the land of the living again, Lieutenant Peary said he feared the chances were very slight. It all depended on the place where the balloon had descended.

If it had fallen north of Spitzbergen, it seemed unlikely that he would ever be heard of again; if, however, the winds had carried it southward, he might have taken refuge on an ice-pack, and would be floated southward with it, and eventually rescued.

Dr. Nansen, in his recent famous voyage, proved that there is a strong current flowing across the Polar Sea. By following this, a ship could be carried from one side of the Arctic Ocean to the other.

When Dr. Nansen went north it was his hope to get his ship, the *Fram*, into the pack, or rough ice that was being carried along in this current, and drift with it across the Pole.

He did not succeed in reaching the Pole, but his ship did drift across the Polar Sea exactly as he had supposed it would do.

It is Mr. Peary's belief that if Andrée gets on to the pack-ice, he may drift southward as Nansen did. Mr. Peary does not believe that any of the pigeons carried by Andrée could live in the Arctic cold, and be able to fly southward with a message.



The fastest ocean voyage on record has just been made by the magnificent North German Lloyd steamer, *Kaiser Wilhelm the Great*.

The speed record has hitherto been held by the *Lucania*, which made the trip from Queenstown to Sandy Hook in five days and seven hours, but that great record has now been beaten. At the rate at which the new German steamer travels, she can make the trip in four days and twenty-one hours.

The *Kaiser Wilhelm* does not, however, travel over

the shorter route from Queenstown, but comes the longer way, from Southampton. She made this trip in five days and twenty hours, beating the *St. Paul* by two hours all but five minutes, and on her return trip beat her own record by thirteen hours.

Boat-builders are very enthusiastic over the speed of the new steamer, and declare that it is only a matter of time when boats will be built which will make the trip across the ocean in four days.

The *Kaiser Wilhelm*, besides being such a fleet vessel, is beautifully arranged for the comfort of passengers, and is considered a model ship in every respect.

The New York agents were so proud of their fine ship, that on her arrival here after her first trip, they issued numbers of invitations to people to visit her at her dock in Hoboken. The people responded in such vast numbers that the docks were thronged, and the assistance of the police had to be called in to prevent accidents.

At the time of the great naval review at Spithead, in celebration of the Queen's jubilee, the *Teutonic*, of the White Star line, was called on to take part in the review as one of the naval reserve. We told you about it on page 1,086.

Our country is also taking active steps to secure a good naval reserve.

At the present time there are forty-two vessels on the navy list which could be used for war purposes in time of need. To make the number yet larger, the Government has called upon all owners of large steamers and steam yachts to give information of the size and strength of their vessels, so that they can be added to the reserve list.

There should be a good many available vessels among the many fine yachts that sail our waters. We are as a nation extremely fond of yachting, and almost every wealthy man we have possesses a craft of some kind. Many of these yachts are models of build and speed, and should make excellent gunboats.

Some people have supposed that this inquiry into the ships available for war service must mean that we are about to fight Spain, but they are entirely mistaken. The Navy Department has realized that our navy is our weakest point, and is doing its best to get it into such a fine condition that we need not fear any foe either on land or sea.

There is an old proverb which says, "In times of peace prepare for war," and a very excellent proverb it is.

The Navy Department is also most anxious to secure more seamen to man its vessels, and to that end is opening recruiting offices in Chicago and throughout the West. We need more sailors and more officers to properly fit out our navy, and the department is making earnest efforts to secure them.

We are so short-handed at present that the cruiser *Philadelphia*, returning from Hawaii, was obliged to transfer part of her officers and crew to the *Baltimore*, which was to take her place at Honolulu. There were not enough sailors available to man the *Baltimore* without this exchange.



It is said that the health of good old Oom Paul is failing, and that he is not likely to live very long.

In spite of this, the rugged old President of the Transvaal is so anxious to be re-elected that he is going round the country making speeches and trying to secure votes, as if he were still a young man.

Oom Paul has three times been made President of the Transvaal. The presidents of the South African Republic hold office for five years, so the reins of government have been in this one man's hands for fifteen years.

He is opposed by General Joubert, the man who beat the English at the battle of Majuba Hill.

General Joubert is also much beloved by the people, and has twice before opposed Oom Paul for the office of President, but there is little chance of any other candidate being elected, so long as Paul Kruger is willing to run for office.

The Boers have a reverence and love for this great leader of theirs which is touching. They regard him as the father of their country, and feel it their duty to support him.

One old man who was asked at the last election whether he meant to vote for Kruger or Joubert, replied indignantly:

"Paul Kruger is as my father; I am as his son. Do you think I would disobey him?"

As the majority of the voters in the Transvaal seem to feel in the same way, there is little doubt that Oom Paul will be re-elected.



There were grave murmurs against the city government the other day.

One morning the papers appeared, telling in indig-



nant words the story of how the aldermen of the city of New York were about to give away the right to build a railroad on the Kingsbridge Road.

Now the people who know most about city government think that the companies who desire the franchise which gives them the right to lay tracks and run cars through certain streets, should be made to pay a yearly sum to the city for the privilege.

There has been a good deal of trouble over this Kingsbridge Road franchise. Two companies have been anxious to secure it, but neither has offered to pay its real value for it.

The granting of the franchise is done by the vote of the Board of Aldermen, who pass the resolution much in the same way that Congress passes a bill, and send their resolution to the Mayor for his signature, in the same manner that bills are sent to the President.

In the matter of the Kingsbridge Road franchise neither of the companies made much headway.

Both companies were extremely anxious to get possession of the line, but the aldermen were equally divided in their favor.

At last a rumor got abroad that in their desire to get a decision the companies were trying to influence the aldermen.

A few days after this report was spread abroad, people were startled to learn that the aldermen had reached a decision, and that the franchise was to be given to the Third Avenue road, for a sum that was nothing like its real value.

There was a great outcry at once.

The memory of the "Broadway Steal" in 1886 was

too fresh in people's minds for them to be willing that it should be repeated.

The newspapers started the cry, the law was invoked, and the aldermen were forbidden to pass the franchise for the Kingsbridge Road until the matter had been looked into.

The aldermen were a good deal startled when these papers were served on them. They remembered the Broadway trouble, and how three of a former board of aldermen had been sent to prison, six had had to leave the country, and four had only saved themselves from punishment by telling the story of their crimes, and helping the authorities to punish their fellow-sinners.

The recollection of this worried the aldermen, but they determined to meet the accusations against them, and asked their lawyer, Mr. Scott, to go to court, and ask the judge to allow them to grant the franchise.

Mr. Scott, however, refused. He told them that in his opinion they had not the slightest right to pass that franchise, and he would not go into court and plead for a thing which he knew to be wrong.

The aldermen, much disturbed at this, decided to let the matter of the franchise alone, and though there is some talk of looking more closely into the matter, and finding if any bribery has been attempted by the railroads, the chances are that now the danger is past the matter will be allowed to rest.

G. H. ROSENFELD.

## BOOK REVIEWS.

**W**ILD NEIGHBORS, OUT-DOOR STUDIES IN THE UNITED STATES, by Ernest Ingersoll, is a most interesting addition to the new books of the year. It treats in a charming way of some of the better-known animals of this country, and will be especially appreciated by those of our boys who love out-door sport. It will prove instructive, as well. (The publishers are Macmillan & Co., New York, and the price, \$1.50.)

Part of the author's description of the panther reminds your editor of an interesting experience he had in the Adirondacks. Ingersoll says that "the blood-curdling screams" of the puma have furnished forth many a fine tale for the camp-fire, but evidence of this screaming which will bear sober cross-examination is scant." In the fall of 1875 we were camping in a little clearing on the bank of the Racquette River; one of our guides, an impulsive Frenchman, started out alone one night, without waking us, and succeeded in shooting a deer. Down the river he came, shouting and making a terrible racket to express his delight; the whole party was awake and out of the tent by the time he reached the landing. Lifting the deer out of the boat, we hung it up on a pole between two trees, and then, brightening up the fire, sat around telling stories until old Father Nod began to remind us that it was 3 A.M., and not breakfast-time. Just then there came the most blood-curdling scream I have ever heard, and it seemed so near us that we all jumped to our feet and made a

dash for the guns. Our old guide reassured us by saying that it was only a "painter," and he was "across the river." In the morning we went over early, and there, sure enough, were his tracks in the sand, looking very much like the prints of the palm of a boy's hand, with a row of little holes on one side where the claws stuck in. I am sure that if the author of "Wild Neighbors" had been with our party he would not have been so sceptical about a panther's ability to scream. We will forgive him because he tells so many good stories in this interesting book of his.

"OLD MOTHER EARTH," by Josephine Simpson and "THE STORY OF WASHINGTON," by Jessie R. Smith.

The first-named book is without doubt one of the very best in its line. It adopts a simple, direct, natural way of unfolding the subject, and cannot fail to interest the children in all they see around them.

The "Story of Washington" is a little gem. The children would be delighted to read it for themselves, and the illustrations are such that children understand. It is beautifully bound for such a cheap little book, and surely ought to find favor wherever it is carefully examined.

## INVENTION AND DISCOVERY.

**TYPEWRITER FOR BOOKS.**—We have for years had typewriters that would write on loose pages of paper, but the making of a perfect machine that could write in bound volumes has not been successfully accomplished until the present time.

A typewriting machine can write much more quickly than any penman—and the work it does has the advantage of being easy to read, whereas very few people write a clear and legible hand.

In office work much of the writing to be done is making entries in books and copying into ledgers.

All this has had to be done by hand, and it has of course taken a much longer time to do.


By means of this new invention books can be kept and entries copied with the same neatness and speed of an ordinary typewriter.

The great difficulty in making a machine to do this work properly was that it was not possible to have the paper move back and forth as it does in typewriting machines generally. For bound books the paper must remain still, and the type moves over the page in the same manner that the pen does.

The new book typewriter has mastered this difficulty. The page is held firmly in a kind of frame, and the type moves with each letter or word that it writes.

In making entries in books, it is highly necessary to be sure that the writing is correct—and so this machine has a simple little device which lifts the type up and shows the writing underneath.

# THE GREAT ROUND WORLD



AND WHAT IS GOING ON IN IT.

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**G**ENERAL Weyler's efforts to remain in Cuba have not met with success.

In the face of the letters and petitions from his admirers in Cuba, and the demonstrations made by the soldiers in his favor, Señor Sagasta, the Spanish Prime Minister, has decided to recall him, and send out General Ramon Blanco in his stead.

The news was received with delightful surprise by the many people who disapprove of Weyler's cruel conduct of the Cuban war. It had been feared that the efforts of his friends would have had weight with the new minister, and prevented Weyler's removal for the present.

Señor Sagasta seems to be a man of his word. He stated that if he were called to take charge of the affairs of Spain his first act should be to recall Weyler, and he has not swerved from his determination.

As we told you last week, General Weyler sent a despatch to Señor Sagasta announcing that he would not resign his office, and offering his services to the new Government.

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The day after the despatch was received, a cabinet meeting was held, at which it was decided that General Weyler must be recalled.

The matter was therefore arranged with the utmost politeness on both sides.

General Weyler in his message stated that it was impossible for him to offer his resignation to the ministry, because he was not merely acting as the Governor of Cuba, but as Commander-in-Chief of an army engaged in war, and in the last capacity he could never allow it to be said of him that he had offered to resign while in the face of an enemy.

He added that he knew that he had the approval of the people of Spain and of some of the parties in power, but that he would also like to feel that he had the confidence of the ministers. This confidence, he declared, would enable him to finish the war, which he stated to be almost at an end.

This very artful letter had no effect on either Sagasta or the Government. The sentence about the approval of the people of Spain and of some of the parties in power was undoubtedly meant as a hint to the Prime Minister that the General had powerful friends, and that it would not be a wise thing to interfere with him.

Sagasta, however, replied to him, that while the ministry recognized and valued the work he had done for Spain, a change was considered desirable, and so he had decided to recall him.

When the news of Sagasta's action reached the people, there was much excitement both in Spain and Cuba.

In Spain it was reported that General Weyler

meant to defy the Government, and keep his post in spite of Sagasta's orders, and that he had threatened that he would use his influence with the soldiers, and carry them with him over to the Carlists, if Sagasta did not instantly withdraw the recall.

The Cubans, on their part, were panic-stricken. They have such a dread of Weyler that they expected he would revenge himself on them for his disgrace.

In Havana some of the Cubans hired armed men to protect them from attack, and others crowded the steamship offices in an endeavor to escape from the country before the catastrophe came.

The fears of the people were, however, set at rest by a statement from the Captain-General that he would never be guilty of any act which could cause his Government trouble. He therefore hastened to assure Señor Sagasta of his willingness to obey the wishes of the Government, and gave up his command in Cuba.

He asked permission to leave the island at once, but Sagasta cabled to him that he must remain where he was until Oct. 20th.

General Ramon Blanco will sail for Cuba on Oct. 15th.

The newly appointed commander of the forces in Cuba was Governor-General of the Philippine Islands at the outbreak of the war there, but was recalled for political reasons.

Unfortunately, his record for cruelty is not far behind Weyler's, and so the savage character of the war in Cuba is not likely to be changed by the change of commanders.

The Cubans know Ramon Blanco well. He was



Captain-General of the island in 1879, when the second insurrection against the Spaniards started.

Under him was Camilo Polavieja, who as Governor of the Philippines has made for himself an unenviable reputation for cruelty.

To these two men was intrusted the task of suppressing the revolt.

The insurrection of 1879 was not a very serious affair; the Cubans as a body took no part in it; but notwithstanding this fact, which was well known to the authorities, fully fifteen hundred men of position in Cuba were arrested, and many of them put to death without being tried or given an opportunity to prove their innocence.

The Cubans have not forgotten this, and they have little to hope from General Blanco, especially as he has announced his intention of dealing with the present trouble in the same manner that he did with the revolt of 1879.

He will find, however, that matters have changed considerably since 1879.

In those days a mere handful of the Cuban people were in arms against Spain; now he will find himself among a people who are unfriendly to the cause he represents, and who have besides organized themselves until they have a government to direct their movements, and an army of veterans to protect them.

Were this not enough to make his task a difficult one, he will find to his cost that the soldiers of Spain on whom he must rely are ill, poorly fed, and angry with the Government because it does not even pay them the pittance due in return for their services and sufferings.

It is true that General Blanco is to take twenty thousand fresh troops with him. But sickness and disease are ravaging Cuba, and the new-comers, unused to the climate, are likely to be the first to fall victims to the fevers and plagues that are turning the beautiful island into a pest-house.

It is said that Sagasta has ordered General Blanco to continue the war as long as there is an insurgent in arms against Spain, but that he does not intend to conquer the people by force of arms alone.

The soldiers are to punish the Cubans if they will not obey the Government, but Señor Sagasta means to try and win the friendship of the people by giving them a kind and liberal form of government under which they may prosper and be happy. With this policy he hopes to bring the war to a speedy end.

General Blanco's first act is to be to repeal some of the cruel laws made by Weyler, especially those which have driven the unfortunate peasants into the towns to starve, while their ungathered crops lie rotting in the fields.

Whether these efforts to secure the friendship of the Cubans will be successful or not, the future alone can tell.

At present the Cubans are not disposed to listen to any offers. They persist in their declaration that they are fighting for freedom, and that the change of ministers or captains-general makes no difference to them. They are not going to lay down their arms because Weyler is recalled, nor yet because Sagasta offers them Home Rule.

As a last act before he leaves the island, General Weyler has pardoned a great number of Cubans

whom he had exiled from their country, and these men are now free to return to their homes.

In the mean while the Cubans have won two brilliant victories in Havana Province, and have also gained possession of a seaport town called Santa Maria, in the province of Pijar del Rio.

General Weyler has stated that he has pacified the eastern part of the island, and has only a little more work to do before he will have the west completely subdued.

In direct contradiction of this statement comes the news that Bayamo, Holguin, Jiguani, and other towns held by the Spanish in Santiago province (which is Eastern Cuba) have all been abandoned by the Spanish troops since the fall of Victoria de las Tunas.

With these towns abandoned, the insurgents do not need such a large body of troops in Santiago, and so a strong force under the leadership of General Garcia is making its way westward to join the army in Havana and Pinar del Rio.

This army crossed the trocha without any difficulty, attacked the town of Taguayabon in Santa Clara, captured it and plundered it with very little opposition from the Spaniards, and marched triumphantly on toward Matanzas province.

The news has reached Havana that this body of men which is marching toward the city is the flower of the insurgent army. It is stated that it consists of infantry, cavalry, and three batteries of artillery, and is well supplied with arms and ammunition captured from Las Tunas.



A MESSENGER from Cuba has arrived in this country, who states positively that the elections have been delayed, and that as yet no one has been chosen to fill the office of President. He adds that Señor Bartolome Maso is the favorite, and it is supposed that he will be the successful candidate. The news of the election of Señor Capote may not have been true, after all.

This messenger, who is named Aguirre, says he is the bearer of some important messages and papers to the Cubans in America, but he will not say what they are until he has laid them before the proper authorities. It is thought that they may have something to do with the exchange of prisoners, and the recognition of the belligerency of the Cubans by the Spanish army.

There has been great rejoicing during the last few days over the escape from prison of a young Cuban, Evangelina Cisneros.

This girl displeased the Spanish commanders, and in revenge they accused her of being a dangerous rebel, and had her thrown into prison.

She is a very young girl, but a little over fifteen years of age, but the Spaniards thrust her into the prison where all the worst women criminals were kept, and she had for her companions tipsy negresses and all the roughest and worst kinds of women, white and colored.

Every one who heard of this thought it such a shameful thing for a delicate young girl to be forced to spend her days in the society of such terrible companions that the women of this country got up a

monster petition, thousands signing it, and sent it to the Queen of Spain.

This petition urged the Queen to have little Miss Cisneros removed to a more suitable prison, and to order that she be given a speedy trial, so that she might have an opportunity of proving her innocence.

Her Majesty, Queen Christine, did order that the girl should be less hardly used, but General Weyler saw fit to disregard the royal instructions, and the child was kept locked up in this horrid prison.

Finding that Weyler did not mean to help Señorita Cisneros, nor yet to give her a proper trial, some friends went to her rescue. Hiring a room opposite to her prison, two young men built a bridge of planks by which they were enabled to reach the window of her prison, and, as the story goes, after sending her drugged candies to give to her room-mates so that they might sleep heavily and not hear what was going on, these men sawed through the bars of her prison, lifted her out on the roof beside them, and hurried her away over the bridge to freedom.

She was kept in concealment for a day or two, and then, disguised as a boy, passed under the nose of the police officer who was watching the steamers to prevent her escape to this country. Once on board and safely out of sight of Cuba, she confessed her secret to the stewardess, who gave her some woman's clothes, and took care of her until she was safely landed in New York.

One of the New York papers, *The Journal*, claims the credit for the young girl's rescue, and states that the two men who freed her from her prison were re-

porters sent out from the paper to do the work. It is to be hoped that this is not true, for while we must sympathize with all unfortunate prisoners, we have no right to break open the jails of another country and free her criminals. If this story is true, Spain has a just cause of complaint against us.



SEÑOR Sagasta has published the contents of the note presented to him by General Woodford, and which was said by so many people to be practically a declaration of war. It turns out to have been merely a polite inquiry as to how much longer the war was going to last, and whether Spain saw a possibility of bringing it to a speedy close.

The Spanish Cabinet has not yet decided what answer shall be made to this note, but it is thought that Señor Sagasta will make a statement about the reforms that are about to be instituted in Cuba, and will ask that we wait and see the effect of these changes before we demand a positive answer to our letter.

The dry-dock has been heard from.

The builders of the dock have received a letter from the captain of the steamer that is towing it.

The letter was written at Madeira, an island off the western coast of Africa. In it the captain says that the dry-dock has excellent seagoing qualities, and that he has no further fear of being able to tow it safely into port.

Up to the time of writing, the captain had made eleven hundred miles with his tow, and as he considered the worst part of the voyage over, he ex-

pected to be able to increase the speed a little, and arrive in Cuba about the 8th of November.



IT is stated that his Holiness the Pope is trying to find some means of bringing the trouble about the excommunication of the Spanish Minister of Finance to a satisfactory conclusion.

It appears that the Carlists are making great capital out of the affair, and are using it to turn the Spanish peasants against the Government.

These people are very religious, and regard their priests with great respect and awe. They would not dream of disobeying their orders, and are led and advised by them to a very great extent.

That one of the great men who are governing them should dare to disobey the commands of the Church, and have to be punished by so awful a penalty as excommunication, is so extraordinary to them that they can hardly believe it. The Carlists' agents have worked on these feelings until they have made the peasants believe that no good can come to a country governed by such ungodly men.

Numbers of these peasants have become dissatisfied with the Government, and are turning toward Don Carlos, because they believe him to be a leader who will respect the laws of God as well as the laws of man.

The Queen of Spain, hearing of this, has sent an urgent message to his Holiness the Pope, asking his aid, and he has immediately set about smoothing the matter over.



**E**NGLAND has sent a final refusal to take part in the conference on the seal question.

The British Foreign Office has notified our ambassador in England, that Great Britain must decline to take part in any sealing conference to which Russia and Japan are invited.

We told you a week or so ago that England had objected to the presence of Russia and Japan because she insisted that the conference that was called had reference to the Paris award. As there were only two parties to the Paris conference, herself and the United States, she declared that she could not see what business Russia or Japan had in the matter at all.

The Paris award, if you remember (see page 976), had to do with the right of the United States to prevent other ships from entering the Bering Sea.

The United States has called the attention of Great Britain to the fact that the Washington conference is in no way connected with the Paris award. It has been repeatedly stated that its object is to be merely to discover whether the seal herds are decreasing, and if so to decide upon a means of preserving them. Any decision that shall be arrived at at the Washington conference is to be binding on all nations interested in the sealing industry.

Great Britain will not listen to this. She takes the stand that by the terms of the Paris award the code of laws governing the sealing fisheries will have to be revised every five years anyhow, and as the first five years will be up in 1898, she does not see the use of entering into the matter now. She therefore positively declines to take part in the conference.



Those who are in a position to know say that England has been forced into this position by Canada.

When Prof. D'Arcy Thompson returned from his trip to the seal islands this year, he brought with him information that completely upset his former statements and theories, and showed that the seals are decreasing rapidly.

Canada became convinced that Russia, Japan, and the United States would combine in an effort to have the seals carefully preserved, and therefore she urged England to refuse to take part in the conference, and thus give her time to consider what may be the best course for her to take under the circumstances.

Experts who have been in London examining the year's take of seal-skins are ready to state before the conference that eighty per cent of the skins sold by the Canadian companies are those of the mother seals, and that most of these animals have been shot.

This latter point is important, because it is in this way that the seals are killed in the deep-sea or pelagic sealing, which the United States is so anxious to put a stop to.

The conference will be held with or without England, but, feeling that Russia and Japan may also have cause for offence if England refuses to meet them, it is said that the State Department has written once more to the British Government, urging it to send some one to be present at the meetings.

It is also reported that Sir Julian Pauncefote is anxious that England should be represented, and has used his influence to get her to do so.

Our Government is inclined to think that England's refusal is not very polite. Lord Salisbury, however,

says that he is entirely free from all blame in the matter, and that the whole trouble has been caused by a misunderstanding with our ambassador, Colonel Hay.

His Lordship declares that when Colonel Hay saw him in July last, and gave him the information that Russia and Japan had consented to take part in the conference, he immediately said:

"Oh, no, Great Britain will not take part on such conditions."

Our ambassador did not hear any such reply, and understood Lord Salisbury to consent.

In the mean while, the representatives of Russia and Japan have arrived in this country, and are waiting for the conference to begin.

The English papers express themselves as being very pleased that England has refused to be present at the meeting. They insist that we were setting a trap for England, and trying to get her to say or do something at the conference which would let us out of paying the \$425,000 of the Paris award.

This is unkind of them, and not quite fair to us. By looking at page 926, you will see that it was agreed that about \$425,000 should be paid to Canada as damages for keeping her out of the Bering Sea. This sum was to be paid subject to the approval of Congress.

When Congress came to look into the matter, it was found that Canada was not dealing quite fairly with us. A number of false claims were set up, and we were asked to pay for damage we had never done. A committee was appointed to look into the various claims, and is still at work on them. As soon as

these matters are thoroughly sifted, the just claims will be paid.

It does not seem right to accuse us of trying to avoid paying our debts because we want the items of every bill we are asked to pay. Every business man throughout the country likes to know what he is paying for before he parts with his good money, and why should a nation be less careful than an individual?



**S**INCE the Greek Boulé accepted the terms of the treaty of peace, the business of settling these unfortunate affairs has been proceeding without any further hitch.

The new Prime Minister declared on his accepting office that his first act should be to secure the evacuation of Thessaly, that is, the removal of the Turkish troops.

He has set himself a task that would seem to be very difficult to perform, for it is reported that the Sultan has sent twenty thousand fresh troops into the territory within the last few days.

The explanation he gives for this act, which looks very like a breach of faith with the Powers, is that he has sent these men to replace the invalid and disabled soldiers who are among his troops.

The necessity for such action is not apparent to the European governments, as the terms of peace had been agreed on, and Greece had accepted them, so it did not seem as though the Sultan needed to keep a strong fighting force in Thessaly.

People in Europe are daily growing more fearful

that the Sultan does not mean to keep his promises, and that he will force Greece to pay the large war indemnity, while he keeps possession of Thessaly, and rules the Cretans in exactly the same cruel manner that he did before the war.

A French journal has published an interesting account of the Sultan as a man.

The writer describes Abdul Hamid as a man who has so many sides that it is impossible to say just what he is or is not.

He is kind, amiable, and even attentive to those he likes, and takes pleasure in showering them with gifts, going to the trouble of finding out what present will be most acceptable to the recipients of his favors. At the same time he has such a frightful temper that his ministers are afraid of him.

Abdul Hamid seems to be a very vain man, and likes to create an immense impression on his visitors. Any one who is to be admitted to the presence of the Sultan is therefore conducted through beautiful gardens and pavilions, past lines of fierce-looking soldiers, and on into a palace blazing with gold and splendor. Gradually his imagination is wrought up to such a pitch that he pictures the sovereign he is about to meet as a person robed in all the gorgeousness of the East, glittering with jewels, and a sort of Arabian-Nights figure of such splendor that he will hardly be able to rest his dazzled eyes upon him.

Instead, he is finally conducted into an apartment more beautiful and gilded than any of the others. Mirrors reflect the light and splendor from side to side, until it appears to be a veritable fairyland. And here, waiting for the brilliant Sultan to appear in all

his pomp and majesty, he is suddenly confronted by a slight, pale-faced man, dressed entirely in black, who stands motionless before him, and gazes at him with stony, expressionless eyes.

The effect is said to be tremendous. Every one who has seen the Sultan says that this sudden contrast gives an awe-inspiring impression which it is impossible to describe. One Frenchman whom the Sultan wished to decorate almost fainted at the sight of the great man.

Those of you who have never approached royalty may fancy this description is exaggerated. But it is an absolute fact that there is something about the approach of majesty that stirs your blood, and makes your heart beat and then stand still, if for one moment the royal gaze rests on you.

In that moment you understand why men were glad to give up their lives and their fortunes for the sake of their kings, and you would be glad to drop on your knee or perform some act of self-abasement to relieve your own feelings. If these are the sensations that attack men when ordinary-looking people in ordinary-looking costumes come into the apartment, how much greater must the effect be after the long theatrical preparation which the Sultan makes his visitors pass through before they reach the presence.

The writer we have quoted from thus sums up the character of the Sultan:

"He is audacious and a coward, a dreamer and a man of business, a miser and a prodigal, a loving father and a sanguinary monster. In one day he condemned a nation to be slaughtered, signed a decree about decorating some ladies, and speculated in

stocks, all with the same peaceful and contented manner."



THERE is a report in South Africa that Dr. Jameson, the leader of the Transvaal Raid, will run for a seat in the Cape Town Assembly at the next election, and that the chances are that he will be elected by a large majority.

The Boers are likely to have more trouble with such a firebrand as that helping to direct the affairs of a neighboring state.

At the same time the news comes that Mr. Cecil Rhodes, the man who is accused of having planned the raid, is seriously ill in his home in Cape Town, and not expected to live.



THE Government of Siam has looked into the matter of the assault on Vice-Consul Kellet, and has decided to express regret to our Government that the trouble occurred.

We told you about this affair last spring. Vice-Consul Kellet went into the interior of Siam to settle the estate of Mr. Cheek, an American who had died in Siam, and who had left directions that Mr. Kellet was to arrange his affairs for him.

While in the performance of this duty, Mr. Kellet was attacked and beaten by Siamese soldiers.

One of our gunboats, the *Raleigh*, was sent out to Bangkok to investigate the matter, and to protect the interests of our citizens there.

At the time the trouble occurred, the then Secretary

of State, Mr. Olney, thought that perhaps Mr. Kellet had been over-hasty, and the soldiers were not to blame.

The message from Bangkok which now reaches us shows that Mr. Olney was wrong.

The Siamese Government has decided that the soldiers were in the wrong, and a lieutenant and four privates who took part in the affair have been severely reprimanded, and suspended from their regiments without pay for several months.

The Siamese Government has offered to make the fullest amends for the outrage, and Consul-General Barret, in his despatches, says that Mr. Kellet's conduct throughout was all that could be desired.

The commission sent up to inquire into the matter declared that the viceroy of the district should have been able to check the ill-feeling of the soldiers, and he, too, has been reprimanded.

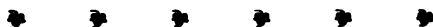
The story of the affair, as it now reaches us, is that Mr. Kellet's servant was arrested by the native troops who act as police in the town of Chang Mai, where the Vice-Consul had gone to look into the Cheek claim. Mr. Kellet's interference on behalf of his servant enraged the soldiers, who set upon him and beat him severely.

The Siamese Government has taken such a determined stand, and has offered such complete apologies for the offence, that there is now no ill-feeling about the matter, and the relations that exist between the two countries are more friendly than ever.

The king of Siam, Chulalongkorn, who has been travelling through Europe since the jubilee celebrations, and of whose visit to Italy we told you in a

former number, has made many friends for himself and his country by his intelligence and his charming manners.

This king has manifested a close interest in the progress of civilization throughout his travels, and his country will certainly benefit from his broadened views when he returns home. His two sons are being educated at Harrow, which is one of the great English public schools, and the rival of the famous Eton, of which you must have heard. Public school in England does not mean free school for the benefit of the public, as it does with us, but a high-class school where the classics are taught, and which is patronized principally by the wealthy and titled classes, because the fees are so high that they are beyond the reach of ordinary people.



**R**EPORTS are coming in from various sections of the country of the disastrous forest fires that are raging.

In Michigan and Indiana, the smoke from these fires is so dense that it lies over the surface of Lake Michigan like a thick fog, and the sailors have difficulty in finding their way through it.

In the southern part of Canada the losses have been terrible from these fires. Thousands of dollars' worth of timber has been destroyed, and many persons have lost their homes and their crops.

In Manitoba the flames are said to be spreading, and there is great fear that the fire will reach the more thickly populated districts. Every effort is being made to prevent the fire from getting a start on



the Minnesota side of the boundary, but it is feared that it will be impossible to do so.

Settlers have been fighting the flames day and night for over a week, but have made little progress.

Some two thousand Canadians have been rendered homeless and ten persons have been burned to death. In their advance the terrible flames have destroyed the towns and villages that lay in their path, and the report from Ontario alone states that farms, dwellings, stores, churches, and schools have been swept away by this dreadful scourge.

The fall of the year is always the time when forest fires are to be dreaded. In dry seasons like the present, there is always a danger that some chance spark may light on the fallen leaves and the grass dried out by the heat of summer, and thus set the forests on fire.

The latter part of this year has been particularly dry. In the Western and Middle States they say that rain has not been so badly needed in years. In many sections of the country there has been no rain for months. Water-courses and wells are reported as dried up, and many of the live stock are dying for want of water.

The grass has become so parched and dry that the farmers are having to feed their stock two months ahead of the usual time, and drive them miles to water. It is feared that later in the year there will be a fodder famine.

As a regular thing, the cattle graze in the fields and feed themselves until the frost comes, when the farmers begin to feed them. Enough fodder is raised during the season to carry the stock comfortably

through until the grass is up again; but as the corn and roots are liable to rot or mould, little more is grown than is necessary. You can see that it is a serious business for the farmers to have had to touch their winter supplies two months ahead of time.

It is this drought which has caused the forest fires.

In those sections of the country that have as yet escaped the fire, the prairies are as dry as tinder, and the owners of the fields are in constant fear that a spark from a passing locomotive may set fire to them. Men are kept on the watch night and day to prevent such a calamity.

The Tonawanda Swamp is also on fire.

Tonawanda is in the northern part of New York State, in the neighborhood of Buffalo, and is a great lumber town.

The swamp covers twenty-five thousand acres, and adjoining it are many rich farm lands and valuable buildings.

The underbrush grows so thickly in this swamp that it has always been necessary to clear it out every little while, and so the people have been in the habit of setting it on fire every year a few days before the equinoctial storms were due. They had found from experience that by the time the storms came the fires had burnt out enough of the undergrowth for their purpose, and the heavy rains which usually accompany the storms put the fires out for them.

This year, however, the equinox brought no storm with it, and the lighted fires have continued to burn with such fierceness that not only the swamp, but the surrounding country, is in danger of being laid waste.

The equinox is that period in which the sun, in its yearly course, crosses the equator, and makes the day and the night of equal length. This occurs twice in the year,—about March 21st and September 22d,—and, as we have told you, is usually attended by high winds and severe storms.

In Virginia there is also a serious forest fire. The Dismal Swamp, as it is called, is on fire. The smoke has become so dense that the people on the trains which run through are forced to keep all the windows closed, and even then the smoke is almost unbearable.

The train hands report that the game and wild animals that have made their homes in the swamp are deserting it and fleeing in all directions.

All over these sections of the country the constant prayer is for rain, rain, rain!

Curious, is it not, that in one year we should have had a period of such heavy rain that dams were burst, rivers overflowed their banks, and the farmers lost their hay crops, and that this wet season should have been followed by such a severe drought that the forests have taken fire!



THE latest news from Guatemala is that the government troops who are supporting Dictator Barrios have succeeded in recapturing the important city which the rebels had previously taken by storm.

It is necessary that you know the name of this city, but it is one of the hardest we have had to encounter so far. Quezaltenango is its name.

(Strange, isn't it, that foreign names should sound so funny to us, and be so difficult to pronounce? In

many foreign tongues the *e* is pronounced *a*, and the *a*, *ah*. If you remember this it will help you to a correct pronunciation of many names and places.)

Quezaltenango being once more in the hands of the Government, Barrios has plucked up fresh courage, and attacked the insurgents with such vigor that one wing of their army has been defeated and driven into Mexico.

President Diaz does not, however, intend to allow the rebels to use his country as a refuge, and he is sending forces to the frontier to drive them back into Guatemala, to be captured by Barrios.



**A**N interesting sham fight took place in Van Cortland Park last week.

The soldiers were divided into two forces, the attacking and the defending, and the object of the fight was to see what the commander's idea of defence would be, in case an enemy attacked the city.

A number of officers from the regular army attended the fight, and praised our citizen soldiers in high terms for the excellent work they did during the action.

The attacking party came up from the banks of the Hudson River at Riverdale, and endeavored to steal down the high-road to Kingsbridge, where they could cross over the Harlem River, and so find themselves on Manhattan Island, with the upper part of New York city at their mercy.

The defenders divided their forces into two divisions,—the army of the West and the army of the East: the one to check the invaders if it was their in-

tention to march across the country to New Rochelle, and the other to prevent any attempt to reach New York city.

The general of the defending army took up his position on Woodlawn Heights, where he could see just which way the attacking army was going to move; and finding that the attempt was to be made on New York, sent troops to the roads and the fields through which the invaders must try to pass.

So well did he lay his plans that the invaders found themselves checked at every point. There was not a loophole left unguarded for them to creep through, and at last, after much good generalship had been displayed on both sides, the invaders were driven back, and the defenders claimed the victory.

The sham battle was followed by a review of the troops engaged, and when it was all over the citizen soldiers returned to the city, tired and dusty, but proud of their good day's work.

G. H. ROSENFELD.

## INVENTION AND DISCOVERY.

**A**N interesting advance in the postal system of our country was made recently when the first of the pneumatic tubes which are to carry mail underground from one office to another was declared ready for use.

Some three hundred prominent men were present to see the first package of mail matter sent.

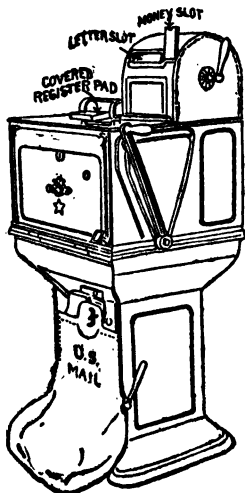
This tube extends from the Produce Exchange to the Post-Office Building, and the trip can be made from one office to the other in one minute and a quarter.

Mr. Chauncey Depew was present at the opening ceremonies, and having made an appropriate speech, sent off the first carrier of mail matter that passed through the tube.

In less time than it takes to tell the story the carrier returned, bringing a receipt for the mail that had been sent, and a pretty little kitten which arrived breathless from its spin through the tube.

The carriers are two feet long and seven inches round, and are made to fit the tube closely.

Other tubes are to be laid throughout the city, and before very long every post-office in the city will be connected with the general post-office by pneumatic



tube, and letters will be posted in Harlem and sent flying down the seven miles to the City Hall in a few minutes.

Another ingenious postal device which has just been put on trial is the scheme for registering letters yourself.

The first thing to do is to put a ten-cent piece in the slot. The coin opens a small registering window, and reveals a pad on which you write the address of the registered letter, and also an aperture through which the letter is to be dropped. The letter must first have been stamped with a two-cent stamp.

After the letter is mailed the sender pulls a handle until a gong rings, and a receipt is then pushed out toward the sender. This receipt is in fact the second half of the order which he himself has written. As soon as the receipt is given the machine locks itself, and nothing will unlock it but a fresh dime in the slot.

Worn coins, or those that are not full size and weight, are instantly rejected by the machine.

The coin, after entering the machine, passes over a very delicate balance, and if it is found to be light or bad when it is weighed, the machine throws it out on the floor in front of the would-be registerer.

Three of these machines have been placed on trial: one in the Post-Office Building, one in the Equitable Building, and one in the branch office at Forty-second Street.

# THE GREAT ROUND WORLD



AND WHAT IS GOING ON IN IT.

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**T**HE situation in Cuba remains much the same. The noteworthy event of the past week has been a sad and unfortunate shipwreck which occurred on October 16th.

On that day a Spanish steamer was wrecked off the coast of Pinar del Rio, while making the trip from Havana to Bahia Honda.

The *Triton*, as the steamer was called, was carrying soldiers' ammunition, money, and mules to be used against the Cubans in Pinar del Rio.

According to all accounts the steamer was so heavily laden that when she started her decks were only a few feet above the level of the water.

It was a very black and stormy night, and many sailors on the dock expressed fears that the vessel could not weather a storm in her heavily laden condition.

The trip she had to make was merely a matter of four hours, and the captain declared himself confident of bringing his vessel safely to port.

All went well till the *Triton* was within a few miles

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of her destination; when off the coast of Pinar del Rio she ran aground.

Those on board who were saved from the wreck said that the vessel was so heavily loaded that she was not able to take her usual course, and, because so much deeper in the water, ran aground on a bank that in her ordinary trips she could pass over without difficulty.

As long as the vessel had been cutting her way through the water, the heavy lading had caused little inconvenience, but when she grounded the waves began to wash over her decks, and cause much alarm to the passengers.

While the vessel was in great danger, she might still have been saved if it had not been for the mules. These beasts, becoming panic-stricken as the waves swept over the deck, stampeded to one side of the vessel, causing it to list over so much that the cargo shifted.

This is one of the most terrible accidents that can happen to a vessel.

The loading of a cargo is a very important thing, and is a business of itself. The men who direct it must understand just how to distribute the weight evenly in the hold, and how to pack the boxes and bales and barrels so tightly together that they cannot move, because if a cargo should shift it is liable to throw the ship out of her balance, and she is in danger of overturning and sinking.

This is what happened to the *Triton*. The mules and the shifted cargo together made such a heavy weight on one side that she keeled over, and within fifteen minutes of the time she first struck the bank

she sank, carrying down with her one hundred and fifty of the passengers and crew.

The accident happened in the early dawn, when many of the people were asleep in their berths, and though the captain had them roused, and lowered the boats to try and take them off the sinking ship, the seas ran so high that the small boats were swamped, and it was impossible to save the unfortunate passengers.

The ship went down in one hundred and twenty fathoms of water, so it is not likely that her valuable cargo of arms and money will ever be recovered. The loss is a serious one to Spain at this moment, when she needs every penny she has to help her out of her many difficulties.



**T**HERE are disquieting rumors that the Carlists are smuggling large quantities of arms into Spain from France, and it is thought that the long-deferred rising will occur very shortly.

Eleven thousand rifles are said to have been purchased in Belgium by the Carlist agents during the month of September.



**T**HERE is a vague rumor that the Queen Regent and her new Prime Minister have arrived at the conclusion that the only possible end to the Cuban war will be to let the Cubans purchase the island.

There are a good many complications in the way of this action at present, because the European finan-

ciers, about whom we have spoken to you before, have advanced a great deal of money to Spain, the sugar and tobacco being taken as security for the return of their money. These people must first be reckoned with before any agreement to free Cuba can be made, but it is hinted by people close to the Government that the Queen and Señor Sagasta are considering a plan whereby they can allow Cuba to purchase her freedom without making bad friends with the financiers, or offending the pride of Spain.

It would seem that Señor Sagasta's policy is to put an end to foreign wars, and gather the strength of the Spanish army around the throne of Spain, so that it shall be well protected against the Carlist attack that will undoubtedly be made ere long.

A report has been received that the Spanish general in the Philippine Islands is treating with the insurgents for peace.

This report is published in one of the reliable Spanish papers, and it states that General Primo de Rivera has been discussing terms of peace with Emilio Aguinaldo, the insurgent leader.

The rebels have been so successful that they are not willing to make peace unless they get very good terms, and so they ask that all who have taken part in the revolt shall be given a free pardon, that three million pesetas (a peseta is worth about twenty cents) shall be paid to the insurgent chiefs, that the Philippine Islands shall be represented in the Spanish Cortes, and that half the government offices in the islands shall be held by natives. The insurgents also demand that the power of the priests shall be les-

sened, as the rebellion was really caused by the disagreements between the friars and the people.



**A**N amusing filibustering incident has occurred during the week.

The Spaniards obtained information that the Cubans were fitting out a large expedition with arms and men for the insurgents. They had engaged a ship called the *Premier* for this purpose, and were making their preparations with all possible haste and secrecy.

The Spaniards gave information to our Government, and requested that the expedition be stopped.

But the Cubans have as many spies around as the Spaniards, and it was soon learned that the *Premier* expedition was known to the authorities. Without appearing to change their plans about the *Premier*, the Cubans made a secret arrangement with another ship called the *Silver Heels*, and prepared her to take their cargo instead of the *Premier*.

The watchful Spaniards soon found out about the new vessel, and even learned the hour and dock at which she was to receive her cargo.

Our Government was warned, and a revenue cutter got ready to intercept the *Silver Heels* as soon as she should really have started on her voyage.

The Cubans were attempting to load and despatch their vessel from the port of New York, and so it was expected that, with all the police boats and cutters available here, it would be an easy matter to catch and convict all concerned in the expedition.

A detective was sent to watch the dock at which

the *Silver Heels* was to be loaded. Sure enough, the vessel slipped up to the pier as soon as night had fallen, and the detective watched suspicious-looking cases being hastily put on board, and suspicious-looking characters taking passage in her. He became convinced that a filibustering expedition was indeed being sent out. To make quite sure, he watched until the last of her load was put on board. The last man had reached the deck, and the vessel, in tow of a river tug, had once more pulled out of the dock.

He then hurried down to the Battery and told what he had seen, and with several other officers got on board the cutter and started to intercept the *Silver Heels* as she came down the Bay on her way to sea.

To you who do not know New York Harbor, it may be as well to explain that New York, or Manhattan, Island lies between the Hudson River and the Sound, an arm of the sea which is called the East River as it flows by New York.

This East River which, as it widens, becomes Long Island Sound, separates Manhattan Island from Long Island, which, as its name suggests, is a long strip of land stretching along the coast for miles above and below New York city, forming the beautiful New York Bay and Harbor below the city, and the equally lovely Long Island Sound above the city.

The Atlantic Ocean washes the outer shore of Long Island, and ships leaving the port of New York can reach the sea either by going above the city through Hell Gate and Long Island Sound, or below the city down the Harbor and Bay, and out through the Narrows, past Sandy Hook and.

The route to Cuba is

To attempt

make the journey by the Sound route is to go a good day's journey out of the way, so it never entered the heads of the officers on the cutter that the *Silver Heels* would start for Cuba by any such out-of-the-way route.

Putting off from the Battery, which is the extreme lower point of New York city, they steamed up and down the Bay, looking out for their prize.

The *Silver Heels* did not put in an appearance, however, and after waiting about three hours, the officers decided to go up the East River, and intercept the vessel while she was still in the river.

The night was dark, and the river full of shipping, but every craft that approached was carefully inspected, and still no *Silver Heels* was discovered.

After several tedious hours of waiting had been passed, the officers decided to steam up to the wharf and find out what had happened to the ship.

On reaching the pier it was learned, to the consternation of the marshals, that the *Silver Heels* had cleared nearly four hours before, and had been towed up the Sound, instead of down the Bay.

With such a start as that it was felt to be useless to attempt to overtake her, and the marshals left the cutter, and returned to their homes, wiser but sadder men.

\* \* \* \* \*

THE young Cuban, Miss Evangelina Cisneros, about whom we told you last week, has lost no time in putting herself under the protection of our flag.

The very day of her arrival she went down to the Cor use in City Hall Park, and there

declared her intention of becoming an American citizen.

It is a very unusual thing for foreign-born women to become naturalized Americans. They rarely do so unless they wish to hold property in this country, for, having no vote or voice in the conduct of the Government, it is not so necessary for them to become citizens of their adopted country. When a woman marries she assumes the nationality of her husband, and can hold any property by right of her marriage, and the fact that all foreign women who marry Americans become Americans by their marriage is another reason why it is rarely necessary for women to take out their naturalization papers.

Miss Cisneros was, however, afraid that the Spanish Government might insist that the United States should send her back to her prison in Cuba, and so she hastened to give up her allegiance to Spain, and shelter herself under the protection of the American Government.



**F**OR some time past there has been a terrible epidemic of yellow fever in the South.

An epidemic means a disease that affects a large number of people at the same time and is widely spread.

The disease was first noticed in a little summer watering-place not far from New Orleans. It was not recognized as yellow fever, the doctors thinking it a harmless little summer fever, of which the symptoms are very similar.

Little by little the disease gained headway, until

by the time its true character was understood it had taken a hold on the people and had become difficult to stamp out.

The strictest quarantine regulations were enforced as soon as the sickness was proved to be true yellow fever, even the passengers on the trains being inspected and closely watched before they were allowed to pass from infected districts to those which were free from the dreaded disease. With all the care it continued to increase, and has not yet been controlled.

On such occasions the scientists are always very busy. While some of the doctors are trying to cure the disease, others are busy preventing the sick persons from carrying the contagion to other places, and others again are occupied in trying to find the cause of the epidemic, and how to prevent it in future.

One of the scientists who have been working to prevent the disease has discovered the microbe which causes yellow fever, and claims that an epidemic can in future be prevented by inoculating people with it in the same way that they are now vaccinated for small-pox.

Small-pox was at one time a scourge throughout the world, and fearful outbreaks of this plague would occur wherever numbers of people were gathered together.

About the year 1718 an English lady travelling in Turkey noticed that inoculation was practised in that country with the greatest success, and that epidemics were greatly prevented thereby.

This lady, Lady Mary Wortley Montagu, introduced the practice into England.



The idea was to introduce into the blood the germs of the dreaded disease, practically giving the patient a slight attack of small-pox, which made him proof against another attack.

Inoculation was, however, objected to, because sometimes the person operated on took the disease in its violent form, and died from the results.

The fact, however, remained that people who had been inoculated were not liable to take the disease again, and so much good resulted that the physicians were constantly seeking a means of inoculating that would insure only a mild form of the disease.

The problem was at last solved by the great English physician, Edward Jenner, in 1798.

He found that a form of smallpox was prevalent among cows, and that by taking the germs of this disease, which was called cow-pox, and putting them into the blood of human beings, he could produce a mild form of small-pox, which never assumed a dangerous character, and yet prevented the person treated from taking the real deadly small-pox.

From this experiment vaccination, as we know it to-day, resulted. The practice was given this name in France; the word is derived from *vacca*, the Latin for cow.

Since vaccination became general, the decrease in the rate of deaths from small-pox has been wonderful, and there has not been one serious epidemic where the practice has been followed.

Yellow fever is a much worse enemy to all people who live in warm climates than small-pox. It is a terrible disease, and often kills its victims in a few

hours. All sailors and travellers in southern countries have to meet with the scourge, the sailors calling it familiarly "Yellow Jack."

If it is indeed true that by inoculation people can be made proof against this awful disease, it will be one of the greatest blessings this wonderful century has given to man.

As we have said, yellow fever visits our southern shores every year, though happily not often in an epidemic form. The Government has therefore sent an expert down to the affected districts to discover, if possible, where this disease comes from, and ascertain the best means of preventing it.

Dr. John Guiteras was chosen as the best man to send, and he reports that it is from Cuba that this unwelcome visitor makes its yearly call on us.

The doctor declares that the sanitary conditions in Cuba are dreadful. He says that nothing is done to keep the cities clean or healthy. The drainage in Havana is of the worst possible description, and in times of epidemic no attempt is made to prevent the spread of disease.

There is such constant communication between Cuba and the United States that our Government has been obliged to keep three health officers in the island to report on the state of things and enforce quarantine regulations when necessary.

Yellow fever breaks out regularly every year in Cuba, and the doctor declares that it would be an excellent thing for us if the Cubans were allowed to purchase their freedom under our protection, as we might then be able to induce them to put their country in a properly healthy condition, and

save ourselves the trouble and cost of yellow-fever epidemics.



**P**RINCE MAVROCORDATO, the Greek minister who has been sent to Turkey to arrange the peace, has arrived in Constantinople, but, if all reports are true, he has not been received with the respect that he considered his due.

Some little annoyance at the custom-house put him so terribly out of temper that he was on the point of turning back and refusing to enter into any negotiations with Turkey at all. He was, however, pacified, and is now in the Turkish capital, ready to begin work.

The Sultan has announced positively that he does not intend to remove his troops from Thessaly until he has something surer to rely upon than a promise to pay the indemnity.

He has sent supplies of winter clothing to the army, and will keep his soldiers where they are until Greece has so arranged her affairs that he can feel sure of being paid.

Considering that the Powers are to take charge of the Greek treasury until he has been paid, this conduct seems rather extraordinary, but the Sultan is such an untrustworthy person himself that it is not to be wondered at that he has no faith in promises or honor.

Last week we prepared you for a surprise in regard to the settlement of the affairs in Crete.

His Majesty the Sultan has not kept us long waiting for it.

Forgetting that the Cretans accepted Home Rule from the Powers, and that the matter was supposed to have been settled, Abdul Hamid now comes forward with a little proposal of his own.

He suggests that all the occupants of Crete, Christians and Mussulmans alike, shall be forced to deliver up their weapons to the Turkish soldiers. That he, the Sultan, shall have the power to appoint whom he pleases as governor of Crete, and shall further be empowered to form a body of guards, half soldiers and half police, who shall have the duty of preserving the peace of Crete.

All this means, in so many words, that instead of a Christian governor, Home Rule, and the payment of a yearly tribute to the Turks, the Cretans shall go back to the old state they were in before Greece interposed.

We shall probably hear a good deal more about Crete before the winter is over.



ENGLAND'S conduct in regard to the seal question looks as if she had been playing the old child's game of asking her pinkie finger before she could give us a decided answer.

From Lord Salisbury's conduct in the affair, one would suppose that he had shut himself up in his study, and consulted the oracle:

"Pray, my dear little finger, pray tell me whether I shall join the seal conference or no? Yes—no—yes—no": and so on.

He has said "yes" and "no" so many times that it looks as though he had just come round to the pinkie again at "yes."

After stating that the end of the five years agreed on in Paris was time enough to consider the seal question, his lordship has now sent word to our ambassador that England will join the United States in a conference. The conference is to be held about the same time as the other one, but is to have no connection with it.

It seems a pity that England will not meet the Russian and Japanese delegates, because they may have some interesting information to offer. As we have said before, there was no question of discussing anything else but the decrease of the seal herds, and Japan has expressly stated that she will not enter into any other form of the subject.

It is, however, a point gained that England will discuss any part of the question, and it is to be hoped that this decision is final, and that Lord Salisbury may not set to work to recount his fingers, and make the pinkie come to "no" again.



**T**HERE seems to be a growing desire for independence in Canada.

The French Canadians of the Province of Quebec are urging the people to demand complete independence from England. They have printed and circulated an appeal to the people to rise and demand their liberty.

We told you some time ago about England's idea of federating her colonies.

If this should be done, the mother country would have the right to demand that the colonies should contribute to her wars, and help her, and stand by

her on all occasions. The federating of England and her colonies would bind them together in much the same way that our United States are bound together. They would be under one head and one government, but each portion of the empire would take its share of the profits and losses.

It is this which has roused the Canadians of Quebec.

Here is their complaint: "Canada, more securely chained, will be thrown into the defensive and offensive politics of Great Britain. We will be called upon to contribute toward the military and naval forces of that country. We will have to give our money and our blood to defend the interests of the noble lords who scorn us, the London merchants who exploit us, and the deserts of Africa or the plains of India will be our funeral pyres, where many of our people will sleep."

These fears were aroused when, in the latter part of September, it was announced that the Canadian Government was about to make large purchases of guns and cannon for the defence of Montreal.

These Canadians became afraid that they were to be drawn into some war in which they had neither interest nor concern, and they are now anxious to throw off the English yoke, and be free to make peace or war as they will.



**A**S the winter approaches, the cry of famine is once more being raised in Ireland.

The potato crop appears to have failed entirely, and the grain, beaten down by storms and rain, has not ripened, but lays rotting in the fields where it was planted.

The cry of famine is heard from Ireland with more or less regularity every year, and therefore some people are inclined to doubt whether this is a genuine complaint, but from all one hears it would appear to be only too true.

Mr. John E. Redmund, member of Parliament for Waterford, Ireland, has stated that the present harvest is the worst since 1879, and that there is every reason to fear that a large portion of the Irish population will soon be on the verge of starvation.

To help these unfortunates, sixty-four of the Irish members joined in a petition to ask the Government to call an extra meeting of Parliament to vote money for the relief of the famine sufferers.

The Queen has the right to call the British Parliament into session at any time she deems it necessary, but for a long time it has been the custom for it to assemble in February and remain in session until August.

In reply to the petition from the Irish members, the Government stated that there did not seem to be any necessity for summoning a special parliament to deal with the Irish troubles, as, if the worst fears for Ireland were realized, the Government had power to use funds to relieve the people without waiting for the consent of Parliament.

The Irish members, in addition to asking for a special session of Parliament, entreated the Government to lower the rents of the Irish tenants.

The petition stated that, in consequence of the poor crops, it was hopeless to expect the tenants to pay their full rentals, and to avoid the suffering and bad feeling that arises from evictions, or turning out the

people who are behind in their rents, it was begged that the Government would lower the rents by law.

The Government, however, absolutely declined to interfere in the matter, and this will have to be left to the good-will of the landlords.

Should the coming winter turn out as badly as it is feared, the chances are that there will be more bitter feeling between England and Ireland. The cause of the strife will be the money that England is said to owe to Ireland.

Some time ago the Queen appointed a committee to examine the accounts between the two nations, and see just exactly how each country stood on the books of the other.

When the committee handed in its report, every one was absolutely amazed to find that for nearly a hundred years England had been collecting about thirteen million dollars a year from Ireland over and above the sum which she had a right to ask for. It was further shown that the collection of this big tax was in direct violation of a treaty between England and Ireland.

If the horrors of famine overtake the Emerald Isle, the Irish people will certainly demand that this money be returned to them; but the sum is now so enormous that England can never return it in full, and, whatever she does for Ireland, the sister isle is sure to feel defrauded and unhappy.



**L**AST July we told you about a great strike that was going on in London among the engineers. We said that the fight promised to be a long and bitter



one, because both masters and men considered themselves in the right, and both had plenty of money to help them to stand by their opinions.

You will be surprised to learn that the strike is still in progress, and grows stronger as time goes by.

When the strike first began, but seventeen thousand men were involved in it; but finding the masters refuse to listen to the demands of the men, the labor unions have decided to call out the workers in thirty other important industries. This will make about four hundred thousand men in all on strike.

The complaint of the men is that they want a working day of eight hours, and do not want to work overtime unless they are paid extra for it.

The engineer's calling is a very hard one; in some branches the men are forced to work around boilers and furnaces where the heat is stifling. They feel that eight hours' labor a day is as much as they should be required to give, and that, if their employers want them to toil longer than their regular hours, they should be willing to pay them liberally for so doing.

The men do not like to work overtime. When their day's work is done they want to be able to go home and rest, and they declare that many of the master force the men to work after hours without reason.

The contracts for making and building in large enterprises are nearly always what are called time contracts. This means that the contractor agrees to have the work finished by a certain time, and if he fails to keep his part of the bargain he has to pay a heavy forfeit for each day that he is behind time.

When the time for a contract is nearly up, it is

often necessary for the men to work overtime to save the master his forfeit.

The men contend that the masters ought to be willing to pay extra for such service. To save them money they are asking the men to toil for them after their full day's work is done, and when they are so tired that it requires an extra effort to do the work.

The leaders of the strike think that overtime is unnecessary if the work is properly handled from the beginning, and they are anxious to make the rate so high that masters will not ask it of their men, unless under very unusual circumstances.

Of late both sides have shown a disposition to settle the strike, because many of the big contracts for work have had to be given out in foreign countries, owing to the duration and strength of the strike; but as neither side seems willing to give in, matters are at a standstill.

The Prince of Wales and Mr. Gladstone have both been asked to arbitrate the strike, but both of these great men have declined to interfere in the matter.

The engineers, however, realize that something must be done, so they are trying to bring the matter to an end by calling out such a number of other workmen that the trade of the country will be brought to a standstill.

There was a rumor that the engineers who work on the steamships would be called out and forced to go on strike. If this should prove true, every kind of business would be interfered with, for no steamers could leave the English ports without properly certificated engineers to run them, and no foreign mail

of any sort could be sent out or brought into the country.

The agents of the great lines running between this country and England, which are nearly all owned by English firms, declared that they were not afraid of the strike hurting them. If their engineers should be called out, they asserted that they could find plenty of men to fill their places.

This is all very well from the point of view of the agents seated in their comfortable offices, but very few of us would be willing to trust our lives on the high seas to inexperienced engineers. We do not care to ride on the cars in times of strikes when green hands are put on to keep them running till the trouble is over, and on the cars we can get out any moment we feel afraid. But on the ocean it is altogether a different matter. There is no stopping the car and getting out at the next block, and it would probably pay the steamship companies better to agree to the engineers' terms than to run their ships empty.



THE Duchess of Marlborough (formerly Miss Consuelo Vanderbilt) is now the happy mother of a baby son who may one day be the Duke of Marlborough.

When it came time to christen the infant, the Prince of Wales sent word that he would act as godfather to the noble baby.

The child has just been christened, and a grand ceremony was made of the affair in the Chapel Royal, St. James' Palace, which, by the way, is the same church in which Queen Victoria was married.

According to the Church of England, three sponsors are necessary to the christening of a baby. If it is a boy there must be two godfathers and one godmother; if a girl, two godmothers and one godfather.

It was therefore necessary to have two godfathers for this infant, who, as eldest son of the Duke of Marlborough, is known by the title of Marquis of Blandford.

The Prince of Wales was one godfather and the other was Mr. W. K. Vanderbilt, the grandfather of the baby.

The christening was a very grand affair, and after it was over the Prince of Wales presented the infant with a golden cup engraved with his own name and coat of arms, and the baby's name, John Albert Edward William, and the family coat of arms.

It seems that the young gentleman has good manners even at this early age, for when he was handed to his royal godfather for inspection he never whimpered, but, seeming to realize the honor that was being done to him, behaved with perfect propriety.



IT may interest you to know that the Princess Kaiulani has arrived in this country.

The Princess is the daughter of Liliuokalani's sister, who married a Hawaiian gentleman named Clegghorn. Kaiulani, who is known as Miss Victoria Clegghorn, is said to be a very charming girl, highly educated and amiable. She is said to be quite pretty, and to look like a Spaniard or Cuban.

She is passing through this country on her way to Honolulu.

Because of the fact which we told you a little while ago that Liliuokalani was talking of abdicating in favor of Kaiulani, every one was anxious to find out from the young princess whether her visit to the Sandwich Islands had anything to do with the proposed annexation.

The young lady refused to speak on the subject. She said that she was simply going there to visit some old friends.

Her father, Mr. Cleghorn, who was taking her to Honolulu, declared himself opposed to annexation, but stated positively that the trip to Hawaii was merely a return home for his daughter, who had been finishing her education abroad.

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**A**FFAIRS in Guatemala continue in an unsettled condition.

While the Government continues to gain the upper hand, and the insurgent leaders are being defeated and obliged to flee the country, the condition of affairs is most distressing.

The rebel cause was so strong that none doubted that it would succeed. Numbers of the best people in the country sided with the rebels, and felt so sure of their ultimate success that they did not scruple to let it be known where their sympathies lay.

Now that the Government and Barrios have gained the victory, there is a panic throughout the country.

It is felt that the dictator will deal out a heavy punishment to all who have revolted against his rule, and in all parts of the country people are fleeing from his wrath, leaving their houses and plantations to go to rack and ruin.

Our Government fears that the lives and property of our citizens in Guatemala may be endangered in the general confusion, and therefore the cruiser *Detroit* has been sent down to the Gulf coast of Guatemala to protect the interests of our citizens.



**W**E are sorry to tell you that the forest fires are still increasing in New York State.

Half of the people of the town of Huron have been engaged for three weeks in fighting the fires, but have made little or no headway.

Forest fires are also raging on the Alleghany Mountains, and word comes that the town of Altoona, Pa., is so shrouded in smoke from the fires that the sun at noonday is almost invisible.

Better news, however, comes from Nebraska. Rain has fallen there, and the terrible drought appears to be over. The farmers are using every moment of daylight to plough their fields and get them ready for the fall planting.

Showers have fallen almost daily over the State since the drought was broken, and, in the few days that have passed, the grass that was so terribly burned and parched has sprung up anew, until it looks quite fresh and green again.

The farmers are now feeling more hopeful.



**W**E told you about a wonderful roller-boat that was being built in Toronto.

It was given its first trial on Saturday, and Mr. Knapp, its inventor, declared it to be a great success.

People who were on board this strange craft on its trial trip said that when the machinery was put in motion the sensation was anything but pleasant. According to their description, it seemed as if the whole ship was being lifted into the air, and tilted to such angle that it was bound to go over. When they were half frightened out of their senses by the tilting, there came a noise as if all the machinery was bursting at the same moment, and when they had made up their minds that the whole affair was going to pieces, the vessel began to move through the water.

As soon as it was found that the ship really did move, and that nothing was going to blow up, everybody began to praise her, and the trial was pronounced a great success.

Although at the trial the boat proved very slow, the builder is so enthusiastic about her that he says he is confident she will be able to move through the water at the rate of sixty miles an hour.

If this feat is accomplished, the three thousand miles of sea that divide us from Europe will be crossed in two days and two hours.

G. H. ROSENFELD.

## LETTERS FROM OUR YOUNG FRIENDS.

*Editor* GREAT ROUND WORLD.

DEAR SIR: Can you tell me more about the map-holder mentioned in No. 47? W. J. B.

DEAR SIR:

If you refer to the map-holder for bicycles, we would suggest that you apply to A. G. Spalding & Co., Broadway, New York. EDITOR.

DEAR EDITOR:

Will you please explain in the next issue of THE GREAT ROUND WORLD who are eligible to seats in the House of Lords and in the House of Commons? By thus doing you will greatly oblige one who is very much interested in your paper.

Respectfully yours,

MORRISTOWN, N. J.

N. R.

DEAR FRIEND:

The House of Peers (or House of Lords) is composed of all the peers of the United Kingdom, the representative Scottish peers, the Irish representative peers, and the lords spiritual.

A peer is the holder of one of the five degrees of nobility,—duke, marquis, earl, viscount, or baron. These men have their seats in the House of Lords by right of birth, and take possession of them when they come of age.

The House of Peers takes its origin from the body of lords and barons who were summoned to the king's councils in olden times. Besides the peers who sit in the House of Lords by right, and who are distin-



guished as the lords temporal, there are twenty-six other lords who also form a part of this body, and who are known as the lords spiritual. These are the two English archbishops and twenty-four bishops.

The House of Commons is composed entirely of men who are elected by the vote of the people.

There are no restrictions whatever of birth, education, or religion. Any freeman who is elected can sit in the House. At one time an endeavor was made to exclude a man who had been elected because he refused to take the oath which is administered to all members of Parliament before they can take their seats. This was Charles Bradlaugh. He said he did not believe in an oath, but offered to affirm, or give his word instead. The House of Commons refused to accept this, and Mr. Bradlaugh was not allowed to take his seat. He afterward stated that he was willing to take the oath as a matter of form, but this was again objected to. For six years he struggled for his seat, and at last was allowed to take it, after going through the form of the oath.

A cobbler has sat in the House of Commons and helped make laws for the people, and the members of Parliament are of all ranks and ages.

In England, however, men of fortune and family take more interest in the affairs of the nation than they do with us, and the majority of the members of the House of Commons are wealthy land-owners, baronets, and knights, who have large interests at stake, and young men of good family who have been educated with the express idea of going into Parliament as soon as they were able to find an opening.

EDITOR.

DEAR EDITOR:

I am one of your subscribers, and think **THE GREAT ROUND WORLD** a very interesting little paper. Do you think the man that went up in the balloon will succeed in finding the North Pole? I hope he will, and when he comes back give us a good history of it. And do you think that Cuba will get its freedom? I hope it will.

Yours truly,

NEW PHILADELPHIA PA.,

LAURA G.

DEAR LAURA:

Great fears are entertained that Professor Andrée has fallen a victim to his love for science, and is one more of the unfortunate men who have lost their lives in their search for the Pole.

In regard to Cuba—unless Spain really gives the Cubans liberal home rule that they can be happy under, they will certainly fight until they are free.

EDITOR.

We have received a batch of delightful letters from a school in Foxboro, Mass. We take great pleasure in printing the three following.

EDITOR.

DEAR EDITOR:

Your paper came this week. As we read the notes I thought they were quite interesting. I should like to see one of those meteorites you told us about. I shall be very glad when your next paper comes, so I can read about Lieutenant Peary. The school is going to write to you and tell you how we liked your paper.

Yours truly,

FOXBORO, MASS.

C. IRENE B.

DEAR EDITOR:

We received our paper this morning. We have only

read two stories, but we think we shall like it. Our teacher read us about Lieutenant Peary, and about the meteorites he got from Greenland, and about the Tennessee bicycle. Each one in the school wrote a letter. We are going to select the best ones and send them to you.

Yours truly,

FOXBORO, MASS.

RALPH E.

DEAR EDITOR:

We received our paper to-day. I think we shall like THE GREAT ROUND WORLD very much. Our teacher read about the meteorites and the bicycles. Each one of us is writing a letter.

Yours truly,

HARWOOD W.

P. S.—I have hurt my right fingers and can't write very well, but am learning to use my left hand.

FOXBORO, MASS.

Every one ought to learn to write with their left hand. In England boys and girls are taught to write with both hands. There is a book published explaining the method.

EDITOR.

DEAR EDITOR:

Can you give me further information relative to condensed food described on page 1267 of THE GREAT ROUND WORLD? What the probable cost will be; where can it be obtained; how soon before it can be bought; and any other facts you may know relative thereto, and greatly oblige,

Yours truly,

E. A. H.

DEAR SIR:

For further information about the condensed food, we would suggest that you address the New York Condensed Food Co., New York.

EDITOR.

# THE GREAT ROUND WORLD



AND WHAT IS GOING ON IN IT.

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VOL. 1

NOVEMBER 11, 1897.

No. 58

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**T**HE British soldiers are doing some very fine work on the Indian frontier.

During the past week an engagement has taken place in which some of the hardest fighting of the war occurred.

According to the despatches, the Afridis occupied some rising ground which was known by the name of the Dargai Ridge. It was necessary for the British troops in their advance to pass across this ridge, and so the Afridis had to be dislodged from it.

A detachment of soldiers was sent forward to perform this task, and accomplished it so easily that in a very short space of time the enemy had all been driven off, and the village of Dargai was in flames.

The tribesmen seemed to have been completely routed, and to have left the country, so no particular pains was taken to fortify and hold the conquered ridge; instead the preparations for the advance were hurried forward.

The routing of the Afridis occurred on Monday; the British troops were ready to start early on Wednesday.

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day morning, but just as all was in readiness for the move, the tribesmen suddenly reappeared in greatly increased numbers, and swarming in on every side reoccupied the ridge.

This was a severe blow to the British, because the work of dislodging the enemy had to be done all over again. The Afridis lay right in the path of the British, and must be made to move.

This time the task was more difficult.

The Afridis had taken up a much stronger position than the one they had occupied on Monday, and had established their main body on an exceedingly steep hill, about a thousand feet high, which commanded the route the advancing army was obliged to take.

The height and the steepness of the hill were, however, but a small part of the difficulty with which the British forces had to contend. The real serious point lay in the fact that there was but one path by which the summit of the hill could be reached, and this was only wide enough for one man to pass at a time. It was therefore impossible to send large bodies of troops against the enemy, and there was the terrible danger that sharpshooters might pick off the men one by one as they tried to ascend the path.

The work had, however, to be done, and an English regiment and two troops of native soldiers were sent forward to storm the hill.

Between the position occupied by the English and that held by their foes lay an open space of rough and rocky ground, which was within rifle range of the Afridis.

Stationing some of their best shots half-way down

the hill, the tribesmen waited patiently while the English made their way across the open space.

The advance was extremely difficult owing to the rough nature of the ground, the soldiers having actually to climb from rock to rock.

As soon as the English were well within rifle range, the tribesmen, who had not fired a shot until the troops were in the bad ground, opened such a deadly fire on them that the on-coming troops were checked. All this time the British artillerymen were assailing the sharpshooters with shot and shell, trying their best to drive them off the side of the hill. In spite of their best efforts the enemy never wavered, but held their position.

The fight began to look serious for the English, and might have gone against them but that the general in command, realizing that the men could no longer stand against the deadly fire of the enemy, ordered a fresh regiment, the Gordon Highlanders, to go to the assistance of the struggling troops.

It is customary for a general to keep a portion of his army in reserve, so that should the battle seem to



be going against him, he can send fresh soldiers into the fight to strengthen the weak places. The tide of battle has again and again been turned by bringing in these reserves at the right moment.

The accounts we read of battles tell us how these reserve troops fret, and fume, and worry, as they are kept resting idly while the roar of battle rages around them. It would seem as if the men became so eager and impatient that when at last the order to advance is given, they dash into the fray with a zest and fury which carries everything before it.

The affair of the Dargai Ridge seems to have been no exception to this rule.

The Gordon Highlanders had been held back all the morning, and no sooner was the order to advance given them than they made what is described as a "magnificent rush" across the open space.

The enemy poured a rain of bullets upon them, but so eager and excited were the men that they hurried on caring for nothing but the advance.

Half of their number fell, killed or wounded, but, undaunted, the others dashed forward, and finally reached the foot of the hill, where the overhanging rocks protected them from the enemy's fire.

After pausing a few moments to recover their breath, they began to climb the hill, and twenty minutes later they had gained the crest and dislodged the enemy.

All England is ringing with the praises of these brave men. General Lockhart, who commands one wing of the frontier army, has personally thanked the Gordon Highlanders for their gallant conduct. He told them that this brave deed of theirs was one

which might worthily be placed side by side with the other great records which this famous regiment has made for itself in the past.

The colonel and officers of the regiment were also thanked for their fine leadership.

We told you some time ago about the effect the Highlanders have on foreign enemies, and also of the many daring deeds of their pipers, and how these men had saved their own lives time and again by blowing on their bagpipes at critical moments.

An incident occurred in the fight on the Dargai Ridge which illustrates this fact.

The Gordon Highlanders rushed forward to the charge with colors flying, and the bagpipes shrilling forth their martial tunes.

One of the pipers who was leading the rush (playing as he ran) was shot through both ankles, and fell to the ground. It was impossible for him to walk, but without a moment's hesitation he scrambled to a sitting posture, and, putting his beloved pipes to his mouth, continued his playing as unconcernedly as if nothing had happened.

He knew that the sound of his pipes encouraged his brother soldiers, and he played on unheeding the bullets that whistled around him.

The report that mentions this story says it was only one of many exhibitions of coolness and courage shown by the Gordon Highlanders in their brave charge.

It is said that while the British are full of pride over the conduct of the Highlanders, they are very uneasy at finding the enemy so well supplied with rifles and ammunition, and so well drilled in the use of their weapons.



Every one is wondering where the rebels obtained this large supply of ammunition, and once more the Ameer of Afghanistan is suspected of bad faith.

It is certain that the arms could not have been bought of English or continental merchants, because the laws are very strict in India, and forbid the introduction of arms, except for government uses. To be brought in by European merchants they would have had to be very cleverly smuggled, and this would have been such a difficult affair that it is thought to have been impossible to bring large quantities of arms into the country that way. It is therefore hinted that they have come from the Ameer's famous factory at Cabul, as it would have been easy for him to supply the tribesmen from his side of the border without being found out.

In the heart of his country this ruler has established an arsenal which is managed by Englishmen who are in his service. The factories are fitted out with machinery imported from England, and when in full working order can turn out twenty thousand cartridges and one hundred and fifteen rifles a day, and two field guns a week.

In 1896 it was known that the Ameer had already manufactured enough breech-loading rifles to give arms to fifty thousand soldiers. It is uncertain what became of this store, but it was supposed that they were being kept for the Afghanistan troops. Now the English are wondering whether the Ameer has not been quietly supplying their enemies with weapons and ammunition.

The latest reports from the seat of war state that the tribesmen are offering a determined resistance to

the English advance, and from all one hears some serious work lies before the British army in India.



SPAIN'S answer to President McKinley has been cabled over to us. The text of the letter has not been made public yet, but one of our newspapers has cabled a statement from Madrid telling us what it is all about. This statement has been confirmed by Señor Dupuy de Lôme, the Spanish Minister in Washington, and so we may have confidence in it.

It would appear that the answer was discussed at a cabinet meeting in Madrid on Sunday; a draft of the answer was then prepared and sent to the Queen, who immediately gave her consent.

The tone of the answer shows that the present ministry of Spain is anxious to keep on the best of terms with the United States, and does not want a war with us any more than we do with them.

The answer is said to call the attention of the United States to the fact that since the note was presented by General Woodford to the Duke of Tetuan, there has been a complete change in the Spanish Government, and that the present ministry has decided to alter the policy of Spain in regard to Cuba, and give the island a form of government that cannot fail to meet with the approval of the United States.

According to this statement, which, as we have said, Señor de Lôme declares to be correct, Spain says that she is now making an honest effort to win back the friendship of her Cuban subjects, and as a proof of this has recalled General Weyler, and sent out in his stead a man who is charged to take all the neces-

sary steps toward providing Cuba with liberal Home Rule.

The friendly offices of the United States will be asked to assist Spain in restoring peace and contentment in Cuba.

The note goes on to add that while the Spanish Government does not hold us responsible for all the filibustering that has been done, it will ask us to do all in our power to prevent any more expeditions from leaving our shores.

In reference to filibustering, it may be of interest to you to know that the work of playing policeman for Spain has already cost us nearly two million dollars. We are obliged to keep a fleet of revenue cutters on the watch for these expeditions, and it would seem that we have tried to do our duty very thoroughly. That we have not succeeded in capturing many of the contraband vessels should be no great reproach to us. Spain has sixty vessels patrolling the coast of Cuba, and has only been able to seize one filibuster, the *Competitor*.

The news that Spain means to give Home Rule to Cuba is most welcome, and it is to be hoped that the reforms offered may be satisfactory to the Cubans, and that the war may soon be brought to a close.

The full terms of the promised changes have reached us—they give the Cubans control of educational matters, tariff, customs, charity, and public works.

A governor or viceroy is to be chosen by the mother country, and he is to have the right to choose the officers who are to form his cabinet.

There is to be a Cuban parliament, divided into upper and lower houses, which is to settle all the

affairs of the island except those which concern foreign policy, naval and military matters, and the manner in which the law is to be administered. The acts of this parliament are, however, to be subject to the approval of the Governor.

The Cuban parliament is to elect the men who are to go to Spain to represent Cuba in the Cortes.

General Blanco is already on his way to Cuba. Before he left Spain he stated that he felt convinced that the United States would soon find that there was no further necessity to interfere on behalf of Cuba. He said that Spain had only the best and kindest intentions toward the Pearl of the Antilles (as Cuba is often called). He declared that peace would soon be restored.

While the reforms offered are not all that can be desired, still Spain seems sincerely to desire to restore peace to Cuba, and it therefore becomes the duty of all peace-loving people to withhold criticism, and wait to see what Spain will do before venturing an opinion.

The Cubans are not elated over the prospect. It is stated that they will refuse the Home Rule offered them, and persist in their attempts to win their freedom.

Señor Estrada Palma, the Cuban delegate in this country, declared that he was in a position to state that the Cubans will accept no compromise from Spain. They are willing to give up their lives for their country's freedom, but they will never accept Home Rule as a solution of their struggle for independence.



**T**HE Cubans in Havana are feeling nervous about the demonstrations that are to be made in honor of General Weyler on the eve of his departure from Cuba, which is to take place on October 30th.

The Americans in the city are begging that a man-of-war be sent into the harbor to protect them, as they fear that Weyler's friends may make an attack upon them.

The demonstration is to be made by the volunteer regiments of Havana. These regiments are recruited from the Spanish merchants in the city, and are all bitterly opposed to the Cubans. They have passed resolutions approving Weyler's methods of warfare, and protesting against the promised Home Rule.

It is feared that these men may get so excited over honoring their favorite general that they may attack the Cubans or Americans in the city.

Weyler has desired that there shall be no demonstration whatever, but the commanders of the volunteers have stated that this is a matter in which they are quite unable to control their men.

In spite of the fact that the Spanish Government relieved Weyler of his duties, he still continues to rule in Cuba, having refused to give up his command until he sails.

He has issued a report in which he states once more that he has nearly crushed out the rebellion. He draws a lively picture of the desperate state of the island when he was appointed governor, and then shows the great improvements he has made.

According to his statement, Havana is in an absolutely healthy condition, and great preparations have

been made for continuing the war now the rainy season is over; he also praises the fine condition of the hospitals in Havana—statements which have all been proved false time after time.

Every failure or defeat that he has met with he attributes to the want of soldiers. He declares that he had not enough men under his control properly to garrison Holguin or Victoria de las Tunas, and it was for this reason that they fell.

He has to say something in his own defence, but it is doubtful if many people will be deceived by this wonderful report.



**S**PAIN has asked for an explanation of the *Silver Heels* affair.

Minister de Lôme has called the attention of the State Department to the case, and asked why the officers on the revenue cutter allowed the vessel to escape them.

The collector of the port of New York has been asked to give his version of the matter. He says that in allowing the ship to get under way before he attempted to arrest her, he was acting in accordance with the wishes of the Spanish Government agent in New York, who wished to have a clear case of filibustering against the ship. It is not against the law to carry arms, and if the *Silver Heels* had been stopped with only a cargo of ammunition on board, it might have been difficult to prove that she was not engaged in a lawful mercantile expedition. But, had she been seized with arms, ammunition, and a number of men on board, it would have been impossible to deny the nature of her business.

If the collector of the port can prove the truth of his statement, Spain can find no just cause of complaint against us, the revenue cutter did all that was required of her by lying in the course the *Silver Heels* was expected to take—that the vessel went another way was nobody's fault.

The Madrid papers think it a great pity that this affair should have occurred at a moment when Spain was trying to show her friendship for us, and declare that the officers on the revenue cutter appeared to be doing their best to avoid overtaking the ship. In Washington it is said that grave trouble may arise out of the matter.

Following right after these statements comes another from the agent of the *Silver Heels*.

This gentleman declares that the vessel never brought up alongside of the dock at which she is accused of having taken on her cargo. He says she was laden with coal, which she took on board at a pier on the New Jersey shore, either Hoboken or Weehawken, that she sailed down the bay and out at the Narrows under her own canvas, and never employed any tugboat. The agent states positively that the *Silver Heels* did not go up the Sound, and declares that if a mysterious vessel did take on a cargo and slip up the Sound, it was not the *Silver Heels*.

There the matter rests for the present.



**W**E hear from the Soudan that General Hunter is steadily advancing up the Nile.

By his orders gunboats were sent ahead of the army

as far as Metemneh, which is the present stronghold of the Mahdists, and lies between Khartoum and Berber. The object of sending on the gunboats was to find out whether the city was very strongly fortified, and what were the nature of its defences.

Under cover of a heavy fire from their guns, these boats were able to reach the city and take all the observations they needed, and then, having treated the city itself to a brisk cannonading, they retreated to report.

A sad story has been telegraphed of the cruel revenge taken by the Mahdists upon a tribe of natives who refused to join them in their war against the British and Egyptians.

This tribe lived on the banks of the Nile between Berber and Metemneh, and were a quiet and industrious people, who, not wishing to mix themselves up in warfare, declined to join in it. The Mahdists, infuriated at their refusal, descended on their villages, killed every male member of the tribe, burned the houses and destroyed the property of the offenders, and carried their women off into slavery.

The British were horrified when they heard of these dreadful deeds, and vow to take a summary vengeance on the cruel Mahdists when they catch them.

It seems, however, as if they were going to have a good deal of difficulty in catching them. As yet they have not been able to come up with the enemy.

Osman Digna, the Mahdist general, steadily retreats before the British and Egyptian troops. It is supposed that it is his intention to draw the army as far as possible from its base of supplies, and then to give battle, hoping to have it completely at his mercy.



If this is his hope, he will find himself very much mistaken.

We told you in a recent number about the railway that the troops were laying across the desert. With the aid of the iron horse—as the locomotive is often called—the dreaded desert can be crossed with ease, and the invading army can have all the supplies it needs following it wherever Osman Digna leads.



**T**HERE is sad news from the Philippine Islands. A cyclone and tidal wave have visited the island of Leyte, which is one of the Philippine group, and have done a great deal of damage, sweeping over a vast tract of country and killing thousands of people.

A tidal wave, or, more properly speaking, an earthquake wave, is an extraordinarily high wave, supposed to be formed by the disturbance caused by an earthquake in the bed of the sea.

The action of the earthquake causes the waters to retreat from the shores, and gather themselves into a mighty mass, which suddenly turns and advances upon the shore in one huge wave of enormous height. This wave sweeps on over the land until it has spent its force, when the waters rush back to the sea once more.

The force of such a wave is so great that it destroys everything in its path, tearing up rocks and boulders, and carrying them along inland with it.

In 1746, when the coast of Peru was the scene of one of these catastrophes, a war-ship was lying at anchor in one of the bays. The wave came sweeping

down upon it, lifted it up on its crest and bore it several miles inland, depositing it on the side of a hill.

The island of Leyte, which has just been visited by one of these terrible waves, is one of the smallest of the Philippine group. Its trade was carried on with Manila, on the island of Luzon, where the rebellion is raging. It was a thriving little island, and boasted of several busy towns, all of which have been completely ruined and in part swept away by the earthquake wave.



**A**T the present time Africa seems to be the storm-centre for all the warring foreign powers.

It has long been the policy of the various European rulers to conquer and hold portions of the lesser known quarters of the globe, and plant colonies there to employ their surplus population, and to increase their trade and importance.

The West Indies, the East Indies, and Australasia have all been settled in this way. Africa was the last country to excite the ambition of Europe, but its turn has come, and it is now being forced to yield up its secrets to the explorer and its riches to the trader.

Sixty years ago the map of Africa was almost a blank. Egypt and Morocco were marked out at the north and east, Cape Colony at the extreme south, and here and there a little outline of territory on the gold coast. All the rest was vaguely marked as Sahara or the Great Desert and the Soudan.

To-day the English, the French, the Germans, the Italians, the Dutch, the Belgians, and the Spanish have all planted colonies on it, and the map of Africa looks as business-like as the map of Europe.

It is not to be supposed that these various nations have taken their slices of Africa without much contention and disagreement. We have told you about the troubles with the Boers in the Transvaal, and of Germany's determination to stop the British advance in that direction.

We have also mentioned the check given by Menelik of Abyssinia to the Italians, and of the fight of the Mahdists to keep the Soudan out of the hands of Egypt and England.

Fresh trouble is now arising between the English and the French.

You must not get the idea that the English are doing dreadful things in Africa, because they are concerned in most of the troubles that are disturbing the "Dark Continent."

The fact of the matter is simply that England and France are the largest landholders in Africa, and are therefore interested in most of the quarrels. The British colonies are also much more scattered than the possessions of any of the other powers, and consequently England has more neighbors to dispute with than the others, and from this fact appears to be more quarrelsome than she really is.

The present trouble between France and Great Britain concerns the boundary line between the possessions of the two countries in Western Africa.

This line has been in dispute for nearly thirty years, and has been the subject of four treaties in ten years.

One of these agreements laid out the northern boundary line of the British possessions on the west coast, the Niger territory as it is called, but it failed

to come to any decided understanding about the western boundary.

You must understand that these tracts of land which have been taken possession of by the European powers are not by any means deserted or uninhabited lands. On the contrary, many of them teem with people, and these lands on the west of Africa are especially populous. You must bear in mind that the extensive slave trade which existed for so many years was carried on with the west coast of Africa.

Many of these black people are intelligent races of men, and all are divided into tribes and kingdoms governed by rulers and kings.

To obtain possession of these lands, it has been necessary for the different nations of Europe to fight, or make treaties with numberless small native rulers and kings. The Europeans have seized the country belonging to these people, but have allowed the kings and rulers to retain their positions, provided they paid tribute and performed certain services for their conquerors. You remember about the King of Benin. He was one of these tributary kings, and his country lay in this very Niger territory about which we are now speaking.

When the French wished to define the northern boundary line between their possessions and those of the English, it was quite easy to do so, because they had already made treaties with the rulers of the various provinces and their rights in the country were established.

With the western side it was not so easy, for there were two great stumbling-blocks in the way. One

was the kingdom of Gando, the other the territory of the Borgus.

You will find Gando marked on your maps on the west of the Niger territory. Borgu, or Bussang, lies just below it, and forms the northern boundary of Dahomey.

Borgu and Gando had opposed the advance of both France and England, the Borgus being an especially fierce and warlike tribe who refused to be conciliated.

After a while the British succeeded in settling their differences with the King of Gando, but Borgu was still in doubt.

In 1894 it came to the knowledge of the English that a French expedition had been sent out to make treaties with the Borgus.

Immediately the news reached them the Niger Company sent out an English expedition to Nikki, the capital of Borgu, to try and get the treaty ahead of France.

Fortune favored the English. Their party arrived three weeks ahead of the French, and the treaty had been made and all the arrangements concluded before the French expedition made its appearance.

The French were of course angry that they had been outwitted, and have ever since declared that the treaties made by the English were of no value whatever, and that France would not respect them until they had been sent by the British Government to the French for approval.

Bad feeling has existed on this point ever since, and it now seems about to break out into an open quarrel.

The French complain that the British Niger Company, which rules over the affairs of this colony, is sending officers over into the Borgu territory to incite the natives to rebellion.

This land France declares to be under her protectorate, because she refuses to recognize the English treaty.

The English say that the French have no rights whatever in Borgu, and that if they behave themselves sensibly there will be no trouble, but if they trespass on lands that are under the influence of England by right of treaty, they will have to be taught a lesson.

In the mean while a commission has been appointed to settle the question, and is now about to meet in Paris.



**T**HE prospect of a bad strike on the Croton Valley reservoir has just been averted.

This strike appeared to be of such a threatening nature that the works were guarded by sheriffs, and the militia were called out to protect the property.

The work which is being done is the building of an enormous wall which is to act as a dam, and collect the waters of the Croton and its tributaries into one monster reservoir, for the supply of New York city.

The work has been in progress for five years, and it promises to be another four before it is accomplished.

The majority of the workmen employed are Italians, many of whom have bought little plots of land and built homes for themselves near their work.

Nearly five hundred workmen are employed, and



for the convenience of these men and their families the company put up a large general store where they could get their provisions; and a boarding-house for the single men. Both of these were leased to an Italian named Joseph Rico.

It was an understood thing that the company should protect Rico from loss, and agreed between the masters and the men that any bills owing at Rico's store should be deducted from their wages.

All went well for Rico. He charged enormous prices for everything he sold, and there being no other store, the people were obliged to buy from him.

A short while ago the company put up a large addition to Rico's boarding-house, large enough to accommodate two hundred men.

When it was nearly finished word was passed round among the men that those who wished to keep their job must move into Rico's new boarding-house, no matter whether they had to give up their own little homes to do so. It was said that Rico would get the men discharged if they did not board with him, and would engage others in their place, as he meant to have his house filled.

This was more than the men would stand. They determined to go on strike, and, leaving their work, made riotous demonstrations, threatening to burn Rico's house about his ears if he did not leave the place at once. Thinking that the contractors were in league with Rico, they threatened all sorts of damage to the works if any further attempt was made to interfere with their right to live where they pleased.

So fierce were the men that they hurled rocks down into the pit that had been dug for the foundations of



the wall, and began to fill up the hole that had taken so much time and money to make. Then the soldiers were sent for.

When matters had arrived at this stage the Italian consul-general in New York determined to go to Croton Landing and see if he could not arrange matters.

On his arrival he called his countrymen together and learned their grievances. As soon as he had thoroughly posted himself on the subject he went off to the contractors, and had a long interview with them.

They on their side stated that they had built the house because they thought it would be pleasanter for the men to live nearer their work, but they denied having given orders that the men must live in it.

On hearing this the consul went back to the strikers and soon returned with about thirty of the leaders. These men talked matters over with the contractors, and on learning that for the future they could buy their food where they pleased and live where they pleased, the men decided to go back to work, the contractors promising not to discharge any of them so long as they did their duty faithfully and well.

The Italians were very grateful to their consul for the work he had done, and in a short while the soldiers were told that they were not wanted, the sheriffs sent home, and peace once more reigned in Croton Landing.

\* \* \* \* \*

**T**HERE seems a possibility of the engineers' strike being brought to a close.

The employers have agreed to meet the representatives of the strikers and talk matters over with them,

provided they will promise that the subject of the eight-hour working day shall not be brought into the discussion.

As this was one of the great objects of the strike, it seemed at first as if it would be impossible for the masters and men to come to an understanding.

It has been reported, however, that the strikers have agreed to withdraw their demand for an eight-hour day and that the meeting will take place.

One of the great societies of engineers is, however, holding out for the eight-hour day, and as this society includes the master-workmen of the trade, the end of the strike may still be far off.



**W**HILE we are on the subject of strikes it may interest you to hear of a decision that has just been given in a lawsuit between a laborer and a labor union.

The workingman, who was an engineer, did not belong to any union, and did not wish to join one. The union, however, wished him to become one of its members, and great efforts were made to induce him to join. The man, however, remained firm.

When the union found that he was really determined not to join, it began to persecute him, and sending its walking delegates to follow him wherever he obtained employment, threatened his master to call all the rest of his workmen out on strike if the offending engineer was not discharged.

This happened time after time; all of his employers declared that he was a competent workman, and that they were very sorry to discharge him, but they

dared not take the risk of a strike and so were obliged to let him go.

In 1896 this man tried to join the union but they refused to have him, though at the same time they continued to persecute him so that he could not obtain work anywhere. Then he sued the Labor Union for damages.

The judge before whom the case was brought gave a decision in the workingman's favor, declaring that if labor unions were allowed to do any such wicked things as this, no laborer who was not a union man could be able to earn his living.



**P**REPARATIONS are being made in Honolulu for the reception of the Princess Kaiulani.

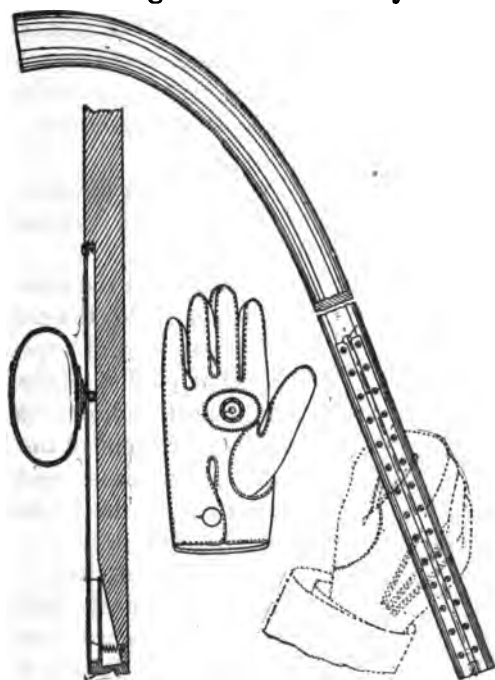
It is whispered that, in case the annexation treaty should be rejected by the Senate, Kaiulani wants to be on hand to seize the throne.

It would appear that the Hawaiians who wish to see a monarch once more on the throne of the Sandwich Islands are not agreed as to which queen they wish to serve under. There is a strong party for Kaiulani and another equally strong for Liliuokalani. Congress, however, meets in December, and it is rumored that the Hawaiian treaty will be one of the first things the Senate will consider. The rival queens will therefore not have so very long to wait before they will know whether there will be any throne left for them to fight for.

## INVENTION AND DISCOVERY.

**POLO STICK.**—Our boys should be interested in this invention, as it suggests many ideas for the improvement of other sporting goods.

While the inventor has called his idea a polo stick, it is in fact in the glove that the novelty lies.



This is made of strong leather, and in the palm a metal plate or lock is fixed.

The glove fastens at the wrist with a strong button.

The polo stick, instead of being grasped around

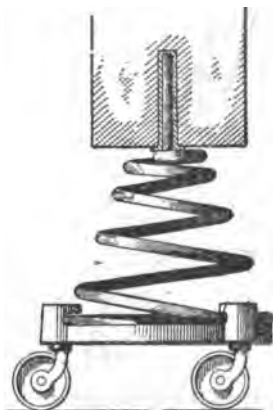
the stock, is held by a metal handle, in the centre of which is a hasp fitting the lock in the palm of the glove. The polo stick is thus firmly locked to the hand and practically becomes a part of the user's arm.

So strong is the lock that the stick must be splintered before it will give way.

For polo such a device is invaluable, for dropping one's stick means dismounting and losing much valuable time; but a simple locking device would be of great assistance in all games that require the stick, bat, or club to be held with especial firmness.

**SPRING CASTER.**—This is a very novel idea, and one which is likely to become very popular if it is found to be practical.

Between the roller of the caster and the plate which attaches it to the chair-leg, a strong spiral spring is inserted. The chair thus supported adapts itself to every movement of the sitter, and gives ease and comfort that no firmly fixed seat can do.



For writers these springs are particularly delightful, as the forward movement of the body brings the seat forward with it, and the writer can have the com-

fort of resting his back at the same time that he is at a convenient angle for his work.

G. H. R.

## LETTERS FROM OUR YOUNG FRIENDS.

**W**E have received two very interesting letters, one from E. J. K., 461 West 43d Street, and one from C. H. K., 504 West 44th Street. We thank these friends for their kind letters, but are unable to print them at length.

*To the Editor.*

DEAR SIR:—In your article in No. 51, on the forest fires and drought following a very wet season, and remarking that we should have such extremes, is it not due—our irregularity of climate—to our careless devastating of whole portions of the country of trees? Many claim so. We are in sore need of national or state foresters.

[Signed]

INQUIRER.

DEAR INQUIRER:

While vegetation has something to do with the climate, the sudden changes to which we are subject are due to the configuration of the land. The Rocky Mountains and the Appalachian Range rising at either edge of the continent form the immense valley through which the Mississippi takes its course; and these two factors of the high mountains and the broad plains have the greatest influence on the climate.

Our immense length of seaboard and the proximity of the Gulf Stream are also agents for engendering our variable climate.

Trees protect moisture from rapid evaporation, and a wooded country is a blessing to its inhabitants, defending their dwellings from wind in mountainous districts.

The denudation of the forests tends to destroy the moisture of the atmosphere, but has little effect on the sudden transitions from heat to cold.

EDITOR.

MR. WILLIAM B. HARRISON.

DEAR SIR:—Thank you very much for the box-kite. It arrived the day before yesterday, and works admirably.

Truly yours,

ELEANOR H.

DEAR ELEANOR:

We are glad you like the kite, and that it flies well.

We witnessed a very funny attempt to fly one of our kites lately. It took the small owner of the kite, his mamma, papa, and two friends to make the effort, and even then failed, notwithstanding that the papa and the friend climbed the fence at the risk of their necks in their endeavor to reach the breeze.

On serious reflection we decided that the kite did not fly because there was no breeze to fly it with, and therefore we recommend all our young friends to wait for the breeze before they endeavor to fly their kites.

EDITOR.

# THE GREAT ROUND WORLD



AND WHAT IS GOING ON IN IT.

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VOL. 1

NOVEMBER 18, 1897.

No. 54

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**T**HE mayor of the city of Greater New York is Judge Robert A. Van Wyck.

New York city has just been passing through the most exciting election that has fallen to her lot since she became a city.

This being the first election since the passing of the charter which made New York the second largest city in the world, each political party has been trying to get a man in for mayor who represented its own especial way of thinking.

You will remember our telling you about the passing of the charter last spring, and remarking that the man who would be made mayor of this great city would have to rule over nearly three and a half millions of people. He will also have to appoint officers of the government whose salaries will amount to five hundred thousand dollars a year, and to control New York's yearly income, which will amount to more than sixty millions of the people's money.

On January 1st, 1898, Greater New York will embrace Staten Island, the whole of Brooklyn as far

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down the Bay as Rockaway Beach, extend as far north as Yonkers, and stretch across the country to the Sound, which it will cross to take in Queens County on Long Island.

In the recent election one of the principal candidates for the mayoralty was Mr. Seth Low, the president of Columbia University, who was mayor of the city of Brooklyn in 1881, and was re-elected to the same office in 1883. Besides Mr. Low there were Gen. Benjamin F. Tracy, who was Secretary of the Navy under President Harrison in 1889, Robert A. Van Wyck, chief judge of the city court, and Mr. Henry George.

The contest was a very lively one, and each man who thus offered his services to his city had to endure a severe course of the abuse which it is the fashion nowadays to heap on any man who puts himself before the public gaze.

Accusations have been brought by each party against the others, until, to the unprejudiced outsider, it has seemed as if none of the candidates selected was fit to hold office at all.

Judge Van Wyck and General Tracy have been accused of being so much under the rule of their party leaders that they could not possibly give New York honest government. Mr. Seth Low has been declared to be such an autocrat that he would rule the city according to his own ideas, were they good or bad. Mr. George was called a visionary person, who would turn the world upside down if ever he came into power. These were, of course, the opinions of the candidates' enemies. To their friends each of them was felt to be the one man for whom the city had

been waiting, and whose election would insure the best possible government at the lowest possible cost to the people.

You may judge for yourselves that all these opinions could not possibly be true; and that therefore the candidates, as well as their parties, must have had their good sides and their bad sides. We can only hope that Judge Van Wyck, who was elected to the position by a very large majority, may prove to be the best man for the place.

A very sad and painful turn was given to the election by the sudden death of Mr. Henry George, one of the candidates.

Mr. George was a man who had made a world-wide reputation for himself as the originator of the Single-Tax system.

The Single Tax is rather a hard matter for you to understand.

In brief, it was Mr. George's belief that poverty could be done away with, and every man placed in a position where he could earn a comfortable income, by abolishing all taxes upon industry and the products of industry, and substituting one single tax on land. The land-owners would then be the only persons taxed, and, according to Mr. George's theory, the land tax would be so heavy that it would prevent the men who do not want to use the land from keeping it out of the hands of the many who would like to have it for homes or raising crops. There being no longer any other taxes, the cost of living would be greatly lessened, and every man would be able to earn enough to support his family in comfort—and poverty would be at an end.

It is claimed for Mr. George's theory that no one has been able to find an argument which disproves it; but at the same time it has not yet been proved by practical use, and to many people it seems only a wonderful idea which can never be brought into working order.

Be that as it may, Henry George was one of the really great men of our century; and while the troubles between labor and capital exist, he can never be forgotten.

Mr. George did not go into the campaign from any desire of personal gain or profit. He felt that it was a critical moment in the history of the city, and he ran for the mayoralty of Greater New York because he thought he was needed by the people whom he so greatly loved.

The cause of the people was ever nearest his heart, and to benefit them he willingly gave up the comfort of his quiet home, and the labor in which he found his greatest pleasure, the writing of a book on the "Science of Political Economy," which he had hoped would prove a greater work than his famous "Progress and Poverty."

Mr. George was not, however, strong enough to stand the strain and worry of a political campaign. His health gave way under it.

The night before his death he overtaxed his strength by speaking in several different places, making several tiring speeches on the same evening, and hurrying from one meeting to be in time for the next. Worn out by the burdens which he was not strong enough to bear, he passed away in his sleep, stricken with apoplexy.

Rich and poor alike mourn the loss of this great man. On the Sunday after his death his body lay in state in New York that the people whom he had loved so well might bid good-by to their friend. For hours they passed by his bier; rich and poor, young and old followed each other in the long line.

At the funeral services which were held later, many ministers of different sects and religions combined in the praise of the great and good man who had passed away in the act of doing his duty.



THE establishing of Home Rule in Cuba does not seem as near as the Spaniards would have us believe. An official who understands the ins and outs of Spanish policy declares that it will be fully a year before the proposed reforms can be put into working order.

At the present moment there is a general election taking place in Spain, and until this is settled nothing will be done in regard to Cuban reforms.

As soon as the elections are over, the Colonial Minister will prepare the bill which will give Home Rule to Cuba. The bill will then be sent to the Cortes, where it must be discussed by both the Upper and Lower Houses before it can become a law. It may take many months before the members can agree on such an important measure as this will be.

When it has finally passed the Cortes, it must be sent to the Queen, who will look it over at her leisure, and sign it if she thinks fit.

Even after her signature is affixed the Cortes has

the power to lay the measure aside and prevent its ever becoming a law.

It is therefore hinted in Cuba that the offers of reform may after all mean nothing but an endeavor to gain time, and prevent the United States from going to the assistance of Cuba.

The reforms offered are not at all acceptable to Cubans, because they find that they will be expected to pay the whole of the debt caused by the war, which now amounts to nearly six hundred million dollars. Furthermore, the captain-general who will rule over the island as governor will have the right to veto every act of the legislature. The Cubans therefore feel that the Home Rule offered is not a genuine reform which will bring them relief from the abuses from which they rebelled against Spain, but a sort of game, invented to keep them good tempered, which is as unlike real Home Rule as playing with a doll is unlike nursing a real baby.

It is stated that the Cuban people in the field and in the cities do not believe in the offered Home Rule, and are determined not to accept it.

A proclamation to that effect has come from Cuba. It is signed by Calixto Garcia, Maximo Gomez, and Domingo Mendez Capote,—which, by the way, looks as if the report was true that Garcia had been elected commander-in-chief of the army, Gomez, minister of war, and Capote, president of Cuba; else why should they sign the proclamation, which is an official document?

General Gomez has also issued another statement in which he says that the change in the Spanish Government will not affect the Cuban plans in the

least. The Cubans, he says, are fighting for liberty, and liberty they will have. They scornfully refuse the Spanish offers of Home Rule, believing them to be insincere and misleading.

Gomez further declares that the army has been making great preparations for the coming winter campaign, and expects to show the mother-country, by force of arms, that Cuba will have nothing from her but freedom.



GENERAL Weyler has left Cuba, and General Ramon Blanco has taken command in his place.

The demonstrations so much feared by the Americans and Cubans in Havana occurred in spite of all the efforts to prevent them, but, happily such excellent precautions were taken that no rioting ensued.

There were a few cries of "Death to the Americans," but a strong guard had been placed over our consulate, and so no attack was made on it.

A report was circulated that the American cruiser *Montgomery* was outside the harbor, and so the Americans were not interfered with. They wisely kept within doors during the whole day, and everything passed off peaceably.

The city itself went wild over its beloved General. The stores were closed, the streets decorated, rockets were fired, and immense crowds gathered round the palace to bid Weyler farewell. The General went from the palace to the wharf on foot, the crowds pressing round him, shaking his hand, and even kissing him, cheering him to the echo as he embarked.

The Government in Spain sincerely wished to pre-

vent the demonstration. The ministry desired to give the impression that Weyler had been recalled from Cuba because his rule had not been satisfactory to Spain. The Prime Minister therefore feared that if the Spaniards in Cuba gathered round Weyler and praised his rule—which had been so bloodthirsty and savage,—the Cubans would be still more enraged against Spain, and less inclined to believe that she really meant to give them the promised reforms.

To prevent any show of feeling, word was cabled from Spain that Weyler was on no account to leave the island until General Blanco arrived.

Weyler must have thought this to mean that Blanco had orders to forbid any demonstration, and so, in direct defiance to the orders he had received, he decided to embark the day that Blanco was expected.

By this means he was able to permit the demonstration which was so pleasing to his vanity, and also to make trouble for his successor.

The Cubans, as Spain feared, were shocked that the Spaniards should make an idol of their bitterest enemy, and immediately began to doubt the truth of the Home Rule stories.

Weyler went aboard his ship in great state on Friday afternoon, but by Saturday the fickle people of Havana were laughing at the man whom they had praised and embraced the day before.

Weyler had expected that Blanco would arrive an hour or two after his departure, but, unfortunately, soon after he had embarked he learned that Blanco's ship could not reach Cuba till Sunday morning, and as the *Montserrat*, on which Weyler had taken passage, had orders not to leave Havana till Blanco ar-

rived, the great Weyler was cooped up on board ship the whole of Saturday, waiting with what patience he might for the arrival of General Blanco.

At about six o'clock on Sunday morning, October 31st, Blanco reached the port of Havana. Almost immediately Weyler visited him on board his ship, turned over his command, and in the afternoon sailed away from the shores of the beautiful little island which he has laid waste and ravaged with fire and sword.

Now that he has gone, the Spanish papers are beginning to condemn him and examine a little more closely into his accounts.

It is possible that trouble may await him when he reaches Spain.

One paper asks that he explain a problem in mathematics which you young folks should find interesting.

On May 18th, 1897, General Weyler announced that there were only 1,300 insurgents in Cuba, and that these were mostly unarmed.

On September 16th, 1897, he stated that of these (1,300) insurgents (mostly unarmed), 1,716 had surrendered with arms in their hands, 4,619 had surrendered without arms, 1,007 had been killed in Pinar del Rio, 536 in Havana, 430 in Matanzas, and 966 in Las Villas.

Out of 1,300 insurgents, 6,335 had surrendered and 2,942 had been killed.

Any one who can make these statements agree will receive a handsome prize from THE GREAT ROUND WORLD





**I**T is said that one of the first measures to be taken by General Blanco will be to suppress the barbarous decree made by Weyler which drove the country people away from their homes, and forced them to herd and starve in the cities.

These unfortunate people are now to be turned loose again, and given the right to go back to their homes and their farms.

This seems a very humane thing to do, but it will hardly bring the Spaniards the popularity they expect.

Since Weyler drove the peasants into the cities their lands and farms have been laid waste, their houses burned, their cattle stolen. They will be turned out of the cities penniless and homeless, and exchange the certainty of dying of hunger in the crowded city for the equal certainty of dying of hunger in the desolate wasted country.

Added to this, it is uncertain whether General Blanco can induce the country folks to leave the cities unless he drives them out at the point of the bayonet.

You probably remember our telling you that when first these people were forced into the cities, and began to feel the pangs of hunger, they begged the authorities to give them permission to go back to their farms, and gather in the crops that were rotting in the fields, that they might have food to save themselves from starving.

You will also remember that permission was given some of these poor fellows, and that they started out full of energy and hope, only to be shot down and

killed by the Spanish soldiers as soon as they were outside the city limits.

The country people have not forgotten this, and it will be hard to make them believe that this order to leave the city is intended for anything else than a general massacre. Blanco will find it no easy task to make the people believe he means well by them.

Immediately on taking charge of affairs, the new Captain-General issued a proclamation to the people, in which he said that Spain had sent him to bring peace and prosperity to Cuba, and to extend her forgiveness to those who were willing to seek the protection of her flag.

He stated that he had been ordered by the Queen to govern the island with kindness and generosity, but added that the rebellion must be brought to an end. He declared that while Spain would show mercy to all who submitted to her rule, she would punish with the utmost severity those who still remained in arms against her.



**I**N the mean while the Cubans are going right ahead.

The important town of Bayamo, in Santiago de Cuba, is being besieged by the insurgents, and the monthly supply-train from Havana has again been captured by the rebels.

The condition of the Spanish troops is something pitiable.

The true state of affairs in Cuba is becoming so well known in Spain that the soldiers there are unwilling to go out to poor pay, poor food, and a certainty of becoming the prey of some awful pestilence.

Many of the soldiers who have been sent home have died on the voyage, and those who have reached Spain are so broken down in health that the fresh soldiers are afraid to go to Cuba.

There have been several mutinies among the troops which were ordered out with General Blanco.

A mutiny means that the soldiers refuse to obey the orders of their officers, and is practically a strike among soldiers.

In this instance the men have refused to embark for Cuba. In spite of their remonstrance they have been forced to obey, and the ringleaders severely punished.



IT seems that our chances of being drawn into a war with Spain have not been greatly lessened by the answer to General Woodford's message.

Every one is waiting anxiously to know what the President will say at the opening of Congress, for it looks as if the time had come when we must take sides with Cuba.

The former minister to Spain, Mr. Hannis Taylor, has published an article in *The North American Review*, in which he gives it as his opinion that as Spain seems unable to put an end to the war, it is our duty to interfere, and tell the Spaniards that the war must cease by a certain date or we will have to take a hand and put an end to it ourselves.

This article has stirred up a great deal of feeling, and we shall probably hear more of it.

In the mean while Spain has sent a note to the various powers, asking what they would be prepared to do if she should declare war on the United States.

It is said that the European governments have given Spain to understand that if such an event occurs she will receive nothing stronger than diplomatic support from them.



THE cruiser *Montgomery* and the gunboat *Annapolis* have been sent in search of the *Silver Heels*, but have returned to port without finding any traces of her.

The number of patrol vessels on our coasts has been doubled, and every possible precaution is being taken to prevent another affair of the kind; but, in the mean while, the filibuster has got safely away.

Cuban filibustering has, however, received a severe blow from England.

Information was received by the magistrate of Andros Island that the Cubans had established a depot on one of the Bahamas Islands, of which Andros is the largest.

These islands lie on the north and east of Cuba, and are a large group of coral islands, which are formed by those great coral reefs which are known as the Bahama Banks. Twenty of them are uninhabited, and many of them are mere reefs or keys.

These islands are very interesting from the fact that they have all been built by the coral insects. Each of these tiny creatures gathers lime from the water in which it lives or the food which it eats, and develops from this a skeleton, which is the coral. They live in masses or colonies, and throw out buds above them which form fresh coral insects.

These buds immediately set to work and gather

lime to build up their own skeletons. In time the old coral insects below die, leaving behind them the hard limestone frame which they have built. The younger coral above lives on, sending forth buds which in turn do their share of the building, and in time,—in countless ages of time,—reefs and islands rise out of the mighty depths of the sea, built by the untiring energy of these marvellous little insects.

This rock building is still going on in the Bahama group, and some geologists think that in ages to come the coral insects which are at work on the Bahamas and those that are so busy on the Florida reefs will build up a vast country where it is now sea, and that ages and ages hence the Florida Keys, the Bahamas, and perhaps even the West Indian Islands may be a part of the main land. While this is only a theory, it should be interesting to you in making you realize that the building of the world is going on now, from day to day, as steadily as it did in the days when the bed of the Niagara River was carved out, and the wonders of the Yellowstone Park were being created by the gradual working of the waters. The forces of nature are building up and destroying to-day just as steadily as when the world first began.

But to return to the Bahamas. It was learned that the Cubans had taken possession of one of these uninhabited islands, and had made it their headquarters for receiving supplies from the filibustering expeditions. These supplies they would carry to Cuba when opportunity offered.

No sooner did the English learn this than a gun-boat was sent to the island.

A large supply of arms and ammunition and a number of Cubans were captured.

The loss will be keenly felt by the Cubans because this depot was also used as a means of communication with friends in New York, and many of them escaped to America by this route.

It is not known what will be done with the prisoners taken. At present they are being held in quarantine for fear of yellow fever.

\* \* \* \* \*

THE British in India are advancing into the heart of the Afridis territory, and are now within thirteen miles of the Afghan frontier.

They have gained another victory over the tribesmen, and have secured from them two important mountain passes.

The hillsmen are fleeing before the British advance, and representatives of the Afridi and Orakzai tribes have sought the Ameer of Afghanistan and asked him to help them.

The Ameer has therefore sent word to the English agent at Kabul that the tribes are full of repentance and alarm, and have begged him to tell the British Government for them how truly sorry they are for their misconduct, and to ask on what terms they can be pardoned.

The Ameer writes on his own account that he is trying to arrest the Haddah Mullah, the mad priest who stirred up all the trouble, and he promises that if he can only succeed in finding him, he will exile him from Afghanistan.

It is not certain that the British are at liberty to make terms with the Afridis.

With savage and semi-savage people it is always necessary to keep strictly to your word, else they lose respect, and are apt to think that their adversaries are not powerful enough to do what they have threatened to do. The quality of mercy enters very little into their calculations. To threaten to do a thing, and then not to do it when it comes to the point, does not mean to them that their adversary is kind and good, but that he is weak and foolish.

The situation is this:

When Sir William Lockhart took command of the force which was sent out to punish the Afridis, he issued a proclamation ordering the tribesmen to submit immediately, stating that he would severely punish any attempt to oppose the advance of his army.

Now the Afridis have opposed his advance, and opposed it very severely, and they have not submitted to him.

It is a question whether he will not be obliged to disregard the Ameer's request for peace, and punish the Afridis, so that they may show more respect for the British rule in the future.

The complaint of the Government against the Afridis is so serious that they ought not to be allowed to escape without a severe lesson.

Wishing to live at peace with this tribe, England made an agreement some time ago with them whereby some of the British forts in the hill country were put under the care of the Afridis. Money was paid to the tribe, and arms given out to the men, so that they might be strong enough to protect the British interests.

In defiance of this agreement the Afridis broke

their alliance with the English, and attacked and destroyed forts which they had agreed to guard.

The present indications are that the war in India will soon be over.

It is said that this will not put an end to England's troubles in Hindustan, as the expense of the war, combined with the money spent to stamp out the plague, has so exhausted the treasury of India that funds will have to be supplied very soon to keep the country going.

The council of India is considering the best means to raise the money needed.



THE Sultan of Turkey has once more been heard from on the subject of Crete.

This time he is objecting to the commissioner appointed by the Powers to take charge of Cretan affairs.

It is said that the German Government is in sympathy with the Sultan in this matter, and has also signified its disapproval of the commissioner.

The uneasy feeling in regard to Turkey is increasing, and trouble is expected before the winter is over.



THE news of Andrée brought by the whalers turns out to be somewhat indefinite.

They say that they sighted an object which they are quite sure was the great balloon.

They state further that they heard strange cries coming across the ice-fields, which sounded to them like human voices, and they believe that Andrée and his party are stranded somewhere on an ice-floe.



Captain Sverdrup, who commanded the *Fram*, in which Dr. Nansen made his famous Arctic voyage, says that it is his belief that the sounds heard were made by birds or else by the packing of the ice.

In the hope that Andrée may still be alive, a relief expedition has started off from the northern coast of Norway in search of the adventurer and his companions.

There is a very interesting article in this month's *Scribner's Magazine*, which tells about the starting of the balloon. You should read it.



THE fur seal conference has been in session in Washington for nearly two weeks.

England's representative, of course, was not present. You will remember that after several refusals and acceptances she finally decided to meet the United States in a conference to be held separately from the one which is now taking place.

Russia and Japan are well represented in this conference. Out of compliment to Mr. Foster, of the United States, who travelled to England, Russia, and Japan to obtain the consent of these various countries to the meeting, the attending delegates made him chairman of the conference.

The result of the discussions so far has been most gratifying to this country.

The Russian and Japanese commissioners are as fully convinced that the seal herd is decreasing as the Americans are, and all three countries have come to an agreement on the matter.

It has been decided to draw up a treaty between

the three countries mentioned, whereby each agrees to prevent her own hunters and those of other nations from indulging in deep-sea sealing.

As soon as this document is fully prepared the conference will adjourn.

The result of the forthcoming British conference is awaited with considerable interest.

It is openly stated that there would be no trouble at all with England if it were not for the interference of Canada and the determination of the mother country to bow to the wishes of her colony.

It is indeed reported that Lord Salisbury has at last been convinced that the seals are diminishing.

Last week he sent for several of the leading fur merchants in London, and asked them to tell him the true state of the case.

According to the accounts that have reached us, one and all of these men assured him that the reports of Dr. Jordan were strictly correct, and that beyond any doubt the seals were being killed off.

Even then the Prime Minister doubted, and thinking that the merchants might be in league with the Americans, he asked suspiciously :

“If this is true, how is it that the price of sealskin is no higher now than it was when the supply of seals was abundant?”

It was not till he had been convinced that sealskin was no longer the fashionable fur, and that astrakhan had largely taken its place, that he was willing to believe them.

It is reported that Sir Wilfrid Laurier, the Premier of Canada, is coming here to be present at the next conference,

It is to be hoped that Lord Salisbury's eyes may now be opened to the true state of the case, and that he may be able to convince Sir Wilfrid that common sense demands that England and Canada shall make a similar agreement with us to that which is just being prepared with Russia and Japan.



**T**HE engineers' strike in England has not yet come to an end.

A special cablegram reports that the situation is unchanged. The Society of Engineers insists on the eight-hour day, and the masters refuse to discuss the subject until this point has been abandoned.

The chances of reaching an understanding are more remote than ever.

In the mean while there is trouble in the cotton trade.

The state of the cotton market is such that the manufacturers can no longer pay the wages they have been paying, and they have had to give notice to their hands that they must either close their mills or reduce wages.

At first it was decided that ten per cent. must be taken off the pay of the workers.

The trades unions discussed the matter with the employers, and refused to listen to such a reduction of wages.

The masters then declared that they could not continue to pay the present rate, as they would be losing money. They finally decided to give their workers a month's notice that they were going to reduce their wages five per cent.

Every one is anxiously waiting to see what the factory hands will do at the end of the month.

It is hoped that the time that will intervene before the reduction takes place will give them an opportunity to think matters over, and so avoid a strike.

Should the cotton-workers decide to strike, two hundred thousand operatives may be thrown out of work.

The manufacture of cotton goods is one of the greatest of the English industries.

Over a million men, women, and children are employed in Great Britain and Ireland, and nearly five million people are dependent for their daily bread on the wages earned in the factories.

The centre of this great industry is the city of Manchester. Here the greatest number of factories are built, and all matters concerning the cotton market are discussed and settled. Manchester—dirty, smoky Manchester, with its forest of tall chimneys pouring forth volumes of black, sulphurous smoke, holds the fate of the cotton trade in its hands.

It is quite a sight to see the Manchester factory hands rushing out of the mills, hundreds strong, at the noon hour.

Our own factory hands are, as you well know, neat, tidy, and well dressed girls. As soon as they turn off from the stream of their fellow-workers, as they leave the mills, it is hardly possible to tell whether they are factory girls, shop girls, servants, or young ladies.

The English mill girls are quite different.

They have a distinct dress which points out their occupation wherever they may be.

To begin with, they never by any chance wear hats. Winter and summer they go bareheaded.

They one and all wear short skirts which reach to the tops of their boots; these skirts are always made of cotton goods, and their boots are thick, clumpy, laced affairs, heavier than those worn by the workmen in this country—very often they have wooden soles. As you may imagine, the appearance of these girls' feet is something appalling.

The factory girl's costume is completed by an apron and a small square shawl of bright plaid, which is worn over the shoulders, or shifted to cover the head in wet weather.

They are picturesque-looking women, but the majority of them are so big and brawny and their manners are so rough that you would rather trust yourself to the mercies of a mad bull than to a crowd of angry factory girls.

On one occasion in Manchester, the agent of a patent washing-machine, wishing to advertise his goods, stationed himself outside one of the mill gates, and offered to wash the girls' greasy, oily aprons as they came out from work at noon.

Some of the girls took their aprons off, and a large crowd gathered round the machine to see what was going to be done.

The man put the garments into the machine, turned the crank, and in a minute the black and dirt were all out of the aprons.

The girls were highly pleased.

They signified their approval as the man wrung out the suds with his machine, and watched him with great interest as he carefully folded each apron, and

then put them through a couple of rollers which were attached to the machine and intended to act as a mangle.

Clean, smooth, and neatly pressed, he handed each apron back to its owner and waited for their thanks. The whole business had not taken more than five minutes, and he expected to do a thriving trade in washing-machines on the spot.

He was disappointed.

No sooner did the girls get back their aprons than the trouble began.

In their ignorance they had expected that the garments would be returned to them dry as well as clean, and when they found that they were wringing wet and could not be used again for several hours, their rage knew no bounds.

They beat the man, tore his clothes, broke his machine, and ill-treated him until the men and boys from the mill, who had been watching the riot with laughter, thought it was time to interfere, and rescued the agent from the angry women.

There is nothing gentle or feminine about the English factory girl.



THE Sultan of Turkey has sent a demand to the powers that the ten thousand rifles seized on board a Greek ship shall be turned over to him. These arms were taken during the early part of the blockade of Crete, and have been held by the powers.

Abdul Hamid has also issued a protest against the trial of a number of his subjects in the courts of Crete. He demands that they shall be sent over to Turkish

courts and tried by Turkish judges instead of by the representatives of the powers.

He seems to be beginning his interference in Cretan matters.



**A** TELEGRAM from Christiania, Norway, states that news of Professor Andrée has just been brought from Spitzbergen.

The nature of the news is not given, but it has been brought by the crew of a ship which was wrecked in the Arctic Seas, and who have just made their way to Spitzbergen.

Spitzbergen is one of a group of islands in the Arctic Ocean to the north of Sweden, and east of Greenland.

We may probably soon learn the fate of Andrée and his brave followers.

G. H. ROSENFELD.

### PRIZE CONTEST.

**T**HERE were so many competitors in the prize contest recently closed that it was impossible to decide who were the winners in time to announce their names in last week's paper. The quotation was, "The Pen is Mightier than the Sword," and Miss H. K. Peck, Crown Street, Meriden, Conn., won the first prize, and Miss E. DuBois, Greenwich, Conn., the second.

Watch for the new contest, which will begin in an early number.

## LETTERS FROM OUR YOUNG FRIENDS.

DEAR MR. HARISON:

I have taken great interest in THE GREAT ROUND WORLD. When I was away this summer I showed your paper to a great many people, and they thought it was very nice, and they thought they would subscribe for it.

I have taken great interest in the Klondike affair. I went away this summer to Lake Hopatcong and had a lovely time, but we came home a little while ago.

Hoping your paper the most possible success,

Yours truly,

SOUTH ORANGE, N. J.

B. F.

DEAR LITTLE FRIEND:

We are very pleased to receive your kind letter.

EDITOR.

TO THE EDITOR:

I wish to call your attention to the article printed in last week's GREAT ROUND WORLD about Austria. Your description about the Bohemians, properly called Czechs, is wrong. They are not wild, unruly, nor obstinate. In the United States there are five hundred thousand Czechs, and you never hear of them giving trouble to the Government nor any one else. Everywhere they are known as a quiet, industrious race, doing their business and offending no one. In Europe they have a great many obstacles to overcome. One of them is that the Germans are trying to crush them wherever they can. Every nation loves its tongue and wishes it to live, so do the Czechs. Because they oppose, are they to be called wild, obstinate, and ill-governed? The Czechs' language is not so



difficult. I know Americans speaking the Czechs' language as well as Czechs themselves. I do not wish to discuss their rights, but I do feel that where a sad mistake has been made it ought to be rectified. Young readers must be informed correctly; and knowing it to be your aim to inform your readers so, I take the liberty of writing. I hope you will not think me prejudiced, nor that I merely write from a Czech's standpoint. An injustice has been done and ought to be righted if possible. If you wish to gain correct information, I refer you to Mr. Riis, author of "How the Other Half Lives." Also to Dr. Hall, minister of the Presbyterian Church. They have both been to Austria several times, and know a great deal about the Czechs. Hoping you will consider the matter, I remain yours, A. B. BAZATA.

NEW YORK CITY, October 18th, 1897.

DEAR FRIEND:

We were very pleased to receive your letter.

You have evidently misunderstood the article in question, and also misquoted it.

If you will look back at page 1,390 you will see that we do not say the Bohemians are an unruly people, but that they are wild and quickly irritated—information which you can easily verify for yourself. We had no intention of making any disparaging remarks about the race. We merely stated facts which are so well known in Europe that they have become proverbs.

In reference to the Czech language we must also differ with you. Your argument that you have friends who speak the language does not strike us as very sound. There are numbers of Europeans who have

learned Chinese, but that does not alter the fact that Chinese is an abnormally difficult tongue.

If you will read our article through again you will see that your zeal for the Bohemians has made you defend them before they were accused.

We stated that the governing of Austria is a very difficult task in consequence of the three conflicting elements of which it is composed, and explained the nature and grievance of each element.

You must not let your sympathies cloud your judgment.

**EDITOR.**

## INVENTION AND DISCOVERY.

**B**Y means of slot-boxes one may buy gum or postage-stamps, be weighed, or have his picture taken.

A schoolboy of St. Louis has recently invented a new and practical form of this popular machine.

The Martin paper slot-box is to be used upon street cars and railway trains for the sale of daily papers.

It has separate compartments for each morning daily, with movable name-slips so that the one box may serve for the sale of both morning and evening papers.

Though small and neat, the box will hold forty-five papers.

By inserting a penny and pushing a button, any paper desired may be had. The boxes are so arranged that five cents will be necessary to work the button for Sunday papers.

The patent papers have been received, and the youthful inventor is superintending the making of the boxes. As soon as a sufficient number are ready they are to be given a thorough trial on the leading lines of cars in St. Louis.

# THE GREAT ROUND WORLD



AND WHAT IS GOING ON IN IT.

VOL. 1

NOVEMBER 25, 1897.

NO. 55

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**T**HIS has been an exciting week for Cuban matters. We told you that we might expect to hear more from Mr. Taylor's article on Cuba in *The North American Review*.

We were quite right in our supposition.

The Madrid papers took the matter up indignantly, and it has been the main point of interest during the last few days.

If you remember, we told you that Mr. Taylor said, in his article, that Spain did not seem able to settle the difficult Cuban question, and that in his opinion it was clearly our duty to interfere.

One of the Spanish Senators, Señor Salvani, wrote an angry letter to the Madrid papers, in which he said that when Mr. Taylor was minister to Spain he appeared most anxious to preserve the friendliest relations between the two countries, and that he repeatedly declared that there was no fear that the United States would interfere with Cuba.

On seeing this letter, Mr. Taylor wrote one on his own account to the American papers.

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In it he said that his experience had been that the Spanish authorities were unreliable, and according to his way of thinking the only way to put an end to the war, which was costing this country so much from destruction to commerce, was for the Government to take a firm stand with Spain, and insist that if the war wasn't ended by a certain fixed date we would end it for her.

To prove the truth of his assertion that Spain was unreliable, he stated that during the term of his official service in Madrid he had become convinced that Cuba would never yield, but would fight till her last drop of blood had been spilled.

Thinking it a great pity to allow such a valuable property as Cuba to be allowed to go to ruin, he decided to make an effort to bring the war to a close.

He was acquainted with Señor Castelar, who was a close friend of Canovas, the late Premier. Señor Castelar was President of Spain when it was a republic, before the young King's father was put on the throne by the aid of Canovas. At an informal dinner-party at Señor Castelar's, Mr. Taylor begged the Señor to talk to Canovas, and convince him that the war in Cuba was only a cruel waste of life and useless waste of money, as the Cubans would not submit. He asked Señor Castelar to suggest to Canovas that an attempt to pacify the island should be made by offering them liberal Home Rule.

Señor Castelar agreed with Mr. Taylor, and promised to speak to Canovas.

A few days later he sent word to Mr. Taylor that he had brought Canovas around to his way of thinking, and that Cuba was to be given Home Rule.

Mr. Taylor was very happy over the result of his efforts, and shortly after an offer of Home Rule was made to the Cubans.

It proved, however, to be Home Rule only in name. Spain was to keep control of the army, the navy, and the courts; the only privilege given to the Cubans was to be that of paying taxes to support the Government.

This offer was not acceptable to Cuba, and nothing further came of it.

When Mr. Taylor found that this was all the Home Rule Spain meant to offer the Cubans, he became discouraged, and concluded that Spain did not mean to do anything for Cuba, and that the offer was not sincerely made, but merely to gain time in the hope that the Cubans would run short of ammunition and be obliged to surrender.

Mr. Taylor has been severely criticised for making these statements.

The Government in Washington feared that serious trouble might result therefrom. What Mr. Taylor knew of the matter was learned while he was acting as an officer of the Government, and it has been thought that he should not have made his knowledge public.

The most alarming rumors grew out of the disclosures. People feared that war would be the result, and for a few hours there was a war scare. Prices of stocks fell, and one enterprising paper got out a "special," stating that war had been declared, because Spain had claimed the right to search American vessels on the high seas for arms, or what is called contraband of war.

The spread of the alarm was increased by a report that the Chamber of Commerce had once again issued a warning to the Government that the harbor defences of New York city were not strong enough, and had asked that they be strengthened.

Twice before in the history of our country that body has warned Congress: once before the outbreak of the Revolution, and again just before the Civil War.

As the members of the Chamber of Commerce had been right on both of the previous occasions, the people looked on them as prophets, and a war scare spread over the country, which caused the greatest uneasiness.

The feelings of the people were, however, calmed by an announcement from Washington that there was not the slightest cause for alarm. The governments in Washington and Madrid understood each other perfectly, and President McKinley intended to allow the promised reforms time to take effect before he even considered the idea of interference. In the announcement it was added that the warning from the Chamber of Commerce would be taken into consideration, but that there was in it nothing to throw the country into a panic.

The sudden fall in stocks was declared to be a trick on the part of some Wall Street speculators, and to mean nothing more serious than that a few sharp men had made money out of a good many foolish ones.

In regard to the threatened searching of American vessels—an action which would certainly oblige us to declare war on Spain—it was stated by those in authority that Spain does not contemplate any such course.

American vessels have a perfect right to carry arms to Cuba and fulfil any orders they may receive for such goods, as long as Spain persists in saying that war does not exist in the island. It is only when men accompany the arms that Spain has a right to protest; otherwise it is a mere carrying of merchandise from one port to another.

It is felt that while Spain has cause for anger against the American sympathisers who have sent over so many filibusters, she has none against the United States Government, which has done everything in its power to prevent the despatching of these unlawful expeditions.



**B**EFORE he left Havana Weyler made a speech in which he is reported to have made remarks which have annoyed the Spanish Government. This appears to have created trouble for him.

The Spanish ministers have talked the matter over, and decided to demand an explanation from the ex-Captain-General.

The commanders of each of the ports in the Spanish kingdom have been instructed to ask the General what these remarks were the moment he sets his foot on Spanish soil, wherever that may be. If his statement agrees with the reports of his speech, he will immediately be arrested and tried by court-martial.

The particular remark reported which so offended the Government was in reference to his being certain that no other minister would keep him in office after the death of Canovas.

General Blanco is endeavoring to establish his government in Havana.



He is not having an easy time of it, however. The Spanish ministers were led to believe that there were a great number of Cubans who were desirous of seeing Home Rule established, and who would come to the assistance of Spain if she attempted to do this.

One of the proposed changes was that certain of the offices should be filled by Cubans. From the accounts given, General Blanco expected to find no difficulty in getting the Cubans to serve under him.

To his dismay he has found that the reported strong Home Rule party does not exist, and that the Cubans decline the honors offered them. He had to threaten one man with banishment from Cuba before he could persuade him to take any part in the establishment of the reforms.



THE war is being actively pursued all over the island. General Garcia has, it is said, captured Holguin and Mayari in Santiago de Cuba.

At Pinar del Rio City the insurgents defeated the Spanish troops and took from them some guns and a large store of ammunition.

It is said that a million dollars, sent over to pay the Spanish army, has mysteriously disappeared from Havana's treasury, and the soldiers are extremely indignant over it.

The desperate want of money among the troops is leading to some very reprehensible acts, if we are to believe what we hear.

It seems that some soldiers brought their colonel word that they knew where they could lay hands on \$14,000, and they said that if they were allowed to go

and seize it they would bring it to the colonel to pay the regiment, which otherwise would mutiny.

The colonel allowed his men to set off on their shameful expedition, and learned that sure enough they had obtained the money. What was his surprise and indignation to find that, instead of bringing it to him, they had deserted to the Cubans with their booty.

While the promised reforms are being put into practice without delay, the new Captain-General is, it is said, making active preparations for war. The winter campaign against the rebels is to begin at once, and it is believed that severe fighting is ahead.

It remains to be seen whether the soldiers will do better under General Blanco's leadership than they did under Weyler.



**Y**OU will be interested to know that the trial of the *Competitor* prisoners takes place in Havana this week.

The Spanish Government evidently wishes to settle this matter, which has been a grave source of difficulty between Madrid and Washington.

Under General Weyler's rule it was impossible to get these men tried, but Blanco has brought orders that they be tried immediately, and it is rumored that if they are found guilty they will be pardoned on condition that they leave Cuba and never return to it.

The *Competitor* case was explained to you in No. 40 of THE GREAT ROUND WORLD. Briefly, she was a schooner engaged in a filibustering expedition, and was overhauled and captured by the Spaniards. All

the persons on board escaped but five, three of whom were sailing the ship, and claimed to be American citizens.

The defence made by these men was that the filibustering party had taken passage for Florida, and had given no indication of being engaged in any unlawful pursuit till the vessel was out of sight of land, when they took possession of her, and forced the captain to carry them over to Cuba.

This defence was not believed, and the men were sentenced to death. Our Government interfered on



account of their being American citizens. A protest was sent to Spain, and a new trial was ordered. This was over a year ago, but by one means or another Weyler always contrived to prevent it.

It is reported that this *Competitor* case was one of the main objects of General Woodford's mission, and that the pardon of these unfortunate prisoners is in response to the President's request.

If all we hear is true, the *Competitor* prisoners will only be a few of the many persons whom General

Blanco has been authorized to pardon. It is said that all persons prosecuted for rebellion, and all rebels accused of other crimes, are to be pardoned by the new Captain-General.

This clemency does not, however, meet with the approval of the Cubans. The pardon states that it is extended to all those whose crimes are against the state, but not to those criminals who should be punished by military law. It therefore amounts to little more than the releasing of the prisoners who are in the jails; the insurgents who have taken up arms against Spain have all been declared outlaws, and their crimes are punishable by military law, so the pardon does not apply to the soldiers who are or have been fighting in the war, and they are liable to be put to death for outlawry whenever caught.



REFERENCE was made, in THE GREAT ROUND WORLD No. 49, to the disgraceful proceedings which were taking place in the Austrian Parliament.

Unfortunately the members of that legislature have not yet seen the shame of their conduct, but have continued to grow more violent and add to their scandalous behavior in every possible way.

The use of the Czech and Magyar languages by the officials in Bohemia and Hungary has again been under discussion, and the scenes that have occurred in the Austrian Parliament day after day are almost beyond belief.

Instead of discussing the matter in hand, the deputies fell to calling each other names like a lot of vulgar street-boys, and would eventually have fought if

a few of the cooler-headed members had not forcibly restrained them.

When the din would reach its highest point, the President would adjourn the meetings; but frequently the uproar was so great that the deputies did not know that he had done so.

These scenes have continued for over a week. On one occasion when a member rose to speak on the Austro-Hungarian compact, which is also unpopular in the House, Herr Wolff, the young Bohemian who recently fought a duel with Count Badeni, the Prime Minister, began to pound loudly on the lid of his desk, and calling his friends to aid him, sang, shouted, and read from the newspaper at the top of his voice, until, after an hour and a half of confusion, the member who was trying to speak gave up the attempt in despair.

At the present moment there are three important matters which have to be considered by the Parliament, all of which have their bitter opponents. One is the language question, another the calling to account of the Prime Minister for the various acts which have displeased the people, and the third is the important question of renewing the Austro-Hungarian compact.

We told you in an earlier number that this was an agreement by which Hungary paid thirty per cent. of the money needed by the Government, and Austria the remaining seventy per cent.

Before we go any further into this matter, we had perhaps better explain to you the government that binds Austria and Hungary together.

The two countries are united under the rule of one

monarch, who is known as Emperor of Austria and King of Hungary.

The two countries are linked together by certain common interests, but each is governed by its own constitution, which is in both cases a limited monarchy. This means that the power of the sovereign is limited by certain rules and laws laid down for him in the constitution.

Austria and Hungary each have their separate parliaments, and the decisions of both these legislatures require the consent of the Emperor and King before they can be made laws.

Each country has its own Premier and Cabinet, and to manage the affairs common to both countries there is a third parliament, as it were, composed of members from Hungary and Austria.

This body is appointed for a year, and meets alternately at Vienna, the capital of Austria, and Buda Pesth, the twin capital of Hungary, a city which lies half on one bank of the Danube and half on the other. It is the duty of these lawgivers to consider the matters that concern the affairs of both countries equally.

There are three state departments, whose officers are responsible for their work to the Delegations, as the third body of lawgivers is called.

These officers are the Minister of Foreign Affairs for the Whole Monarchy, the Minister of War for the Whole Monarchy, and the Minister of Finance for the Whole Monarchy.

These facts may seem a little hard and uninteresting to you, but it is as well to try to master them. It looks as if we were going to hear a great deal about Austria this winter, and it will be so much easier for

us to understand the events as they happen if we have mastered the peculiar form of government under which these two peoples are joined.

It might perhaps simplify the subject to you if you realize that this government is really somewhat like our own. Austria and Hungary might be any two of our own States—say Pennsylvania and New York, for instance. The Emperor, the two parliaments, and the third body which regulates the matters in common for both countries, might be our President, the state legislatures, and Congress. Of course there are points of difference between the two governments, but to take this as a general plan will help you to form an idea of what the Government of Austro-Hungary is.

On page 1012 of *THE GREAT ROUND WORLD* we told you about Turkey and Austria fighting for Hungary, and how since 1527 Hungary had been a part of the possessions of the House of Habsburg.\*

There have been many revolts and uprisings in Hungary against the Austrian rule, and in 1867 the present arrangement was made, whereby Hungary paid thirty per cent. of the joint expenses of government. The compact, as it is called, was made for ten years. In 1877 and 1887 it was renewed for another period of ten years. Now in 1897 it must be renewed again.

Austria thinks Hungary is now in a position to pay

\*This is often written *Hapsburg*, probably because the *h* is pronounced very shortly and sharply, giving it much the sound of *p*. *Habsburg* is, however, correct, as the name is derived from *Habicht*, a hawk, and was originally *Habichtsburg*, the Hawk's Castle, from which the family derived its name.

a larger proportion of the expenses, but Hungary cannot see the force of this at all. She is, however, willing to make a fresh compact for one year, during which time the whole matter can be thoroughly discussed.

The attempt to get the compact arranged for the one year offered has been one of the causes of the trouble in the Reichsrath, or Parliament.

The Austrians do not want to renew the agreement unless they can get better terms, the Hungarians will not pay any more, and the Bohemians are opposed to every motion that is made, because they insist that their own grievance about the language shall be settled before any other business is done.

In consequence of this, the Austrian Parliament has become a bear-garden.

Mr. Clemens (Mark Twain), who happened to be in Vienna during these uproarious sittings of Parliament, and witnessed one of them, declared that the nearest approach to such a riot in his experience was the lynching of a man out West for stealing a horse—but even that was a mild scene compared to the proceedings of the Parliament.

While Mr. Clemens was watching, an Austrian member tried to speak on the Hungarian question; whereupon Mr. Wolff, the Bohemian member, began to slam the lid of his desk and then pound it with a ruler. A scuffle ensued in the attempt to wrench off the lid of the desk, during all of which the Austrian member continued to speak, it being utterly impossible to hear one word of what he was saying, because of the uproar made by the rest of these dignified lawgivers.





THE START OF THE ANDRÉE BALLOON.

The haughty Hungarians have naturally become highly indignant over this conduct, and there have been stormy times in the Hungarian Parliament.

Francis Kossuth, a son of Louis Kossuth, the famous Hungarian patriot, is a member of the Lower House of the Hungarian Parliament. He created a sensation by demanding that Hungary should cut herself free from Austria and once more become an independent kingdom, as Austria did not seem to desire the renewal of the compact.

Baron Banffy, the Hungarian Premier, at once replied that the union of Austria and Hungary was complete, and a separation was impossible, and even were it not so, he could not contemplate the idea of turning Austria's troubles to the advantage of Hungary.

While the Austrian Parliament behaves in such a scandalous manner, no business can be transacted, and the matters of vital importance to the welfare of the country have to be laid aside because of the disorderly conduct of the Parliament.

The Emperor, Francis Joseph, is so disgusted with the way in which the deputies are abusing the privilege of helping to govern their country, that he threatens to suspend the constitution and act without the Parliament.

At present, it being a limited monarchy, he can only make laws by the will and consent of the people.

There is, however, a clause in the Austrian Constitution, an emergency clause, known as Article XIV., which in case of need gives the Emperor the right to suspend the constitution and act on his own responsibility.

The necessity of coming to a decision on the Hungarian question has become so great that the ministers are of the opinion that the Emperor will have to use this privilege. The Minister of Finance therefore uttered a warning to the members of the Parliament, telling them that they had better not drive the Government too far, as there was the gravest danger of the Emperor insisting upon exercising this right.

The latest despatches say that the published reports give but a slight idea of the grave trouble that is underlying this matter. It is feared that a revolution may be the result, and that martial law will have to be proclaimed in Bohemia this winter to quell the language riots.

There was great indignation in the Parliament when the warning of the Minister of Finance was announced; and grave as it seems thus to deprive the people of their rights, something must soon be done to bring the deputies to their senses. The warring factions in the Reichsrath have learned that if they cannot obtain the laws they wish to have for themselves, they can at least prevent laws from being made for others, and so they have brought the affairs of Parliament to a deadlock.

The latest news is that the House has been adjourned for a period of four days. If the members continue to act as before when the House reassembles, the probabilities are that the Emperor will suspend the constitution and take from the people the right of making laws until they prove worthy of the privilege.

While this course may bring the Austrian Parliament to order, it is likely to throw the Hungarians into still greater disorder.

Francis Kossuth, on hearing of the Emperor's intentions, announced that he would fight to the death rather than allow Hungary to accept a compact made with the Emperor alone, and without the consent of the Austrian Parliament.

\* \* \* \* \*

**Y**OU will be glad to know that Japan and Hawaii are likely to come to a friendly settlement of their differences.

You will remember that it was suggested that the matter of the exclusion of the emigrants should be decided by arbitration.

When, however, the time came for Japan to state the points she was willing to submit to arbitration, she refused to allow the possession of the \$50 to be discussed.

This, as you will recollect, was the whole point of the disagreement.

Hawaii refused to accept the immigrants because it came to her knowledge that the steamship company furnished them with contracts, and loaned them the \$50 required by law to enable them to pass the custom-house. The contracts were worthless, and the \$50 was returned immediately on landing.

The Japanese Government in Tokio has come to the very wise and pleasant decision that the proper thing for it to do is to submit the whole case to the arbitrators and not enter into any conflict with Hawaii.

Up to the present time the letters sent by the Japanese Government have been of such a nature that they warranted the belief that Japan was ready to declare war on us on account of Hawaii.

In the present communications, however, the entire

tone has changed. They are friendly and pleasant, and appear to desire to preserve friendly relations with us.

This should be especially pleasing, for the Japanese are a fine, vigorous race of people, whom we cannot but admire for their spirited conduct in their war with China. It would be a pity if we were forced to regard them in an unfriendly light.

It is reported that the reason for the change is that the Government has discovered that the information forwarded to it was misleading and calculated to give a wrong impression.

It is hinted that the Japanese minister in this country is the innocent cause of the trouble. It seems that he became very intimate with the son of Claus Spreckels, the Hawaiian Sugar King.

Young Mr. Spreckels had of course his own ideas about Hawaiian matters, and told them to the Japanese minister. This official felt that Mr. Spreckels must be thoroughly well acquainted with Sandwich Island affairs, and accepted all that he said as fact without attempting to investigate for himself.

He should not have done this, because, hard though it is for us to realize it sometimes, there are always two sides to every question, and all of us, even the fairest-minded, find it difficult to see both sides with equal clearness and justice.

With the best intentions it was impossible for Mr. Spreckels to look at matters from a disinterested standpoint, and the minister should have grasped this fact, instead of sending as facts to his Government statements that were merely the views of an interested party.

As it was, the Government in Tokio was told that there was not the slightest fear of the United States annexing Hawaii, that it was all talk and would never amount to anything, and that Japan could go ahead and force her immigrants on Hawaii without interference.

As a matter of fact, it now appears that Japan had no hostile plans in sending her immigrants to Hawaii.

While it is true that many of these men were soldiers, it is stated by those who have studied the matter that they were not soldiers in the regular Japanese army, but men who had fought in the war with China.

The enormous strides which Japan has made since the war, and which have roused the admiration of all her sister nations, cannot have been accomplished without changes in the thoughts and habits of the Japanese people.

It seems that the progressive spirit which the war awakened made the Japanese restless; the soldiers who had been serving in the field could not readily settle down to the old ways of life. They wanted fresh worlds to conquer.

The Government, realizing that something must be done with this restless element, instituted and encouraged the idea of emigration. There appeared to be a great demand for such people in Hawaii, and therefore the emigration to the Sandwich Islands was commenced. It would perhaps have been wiser to send the people to the recently acquired island of Formosa, but the march of progress had not yet reached this island, while the Americanized Hawaiian

Islands offered inducements which the newly awakened Japanese ambition craved for.

Be that as it may, it now seems certain that there was no more serious motive in sending emigrants to Hawaii than the endeavor of Japan to find occupation for her surplus population.

The determined stand taken by the Hawaiian Government, and the absolute certainty that the United States would uphold it, finally opened the eyes of the Japanese to their mistake. The minister was recalled after inquiries had been instituted, and the attitude of the Japanese representatives in Hawaii was changed from haughty displeasure to the utmost friendliness.

The outcome of the whole matter has been a pleasantly worded letter from Japan, in which she consents to submit the whole immigration question—contract, \$50, and all—to arbitration.

It is extremely gratifying to all lovers of peace to find that one more national misunderstanding has been settled without resorting to the horrors and cruelties of war.



**N**EWs comes that the month of reflection given to the Manchester cotton-workers, before the reduction of wages was to go into effect, has borne good fruit.

Instead of going on strike and causing distress to themselves and disaster to the masters, the workmen have decided to submit the matter to arbitration.

If it is proved to their satisfaction that the masters are really paying higher wages than the state of the business permits, they will submit to the reduction.

They want to be assured that the masters are telling them the truth, and for this no one can blame them. Five per cent. of their earnings is too much to be given up unless it is absolutely necessary.

This settlement is another triumph for arbitration.



**T**HE treaty entered into by the Russian, Japanese, and United States sealing commissioners has been signed.

The treaty prohibits deep-sea sealing in waters controlled by them.

The treaty does not apply (so far as Great Britain is concerned) to the Bering Sea. By the treaty of Paris this sea was declared to be an open sea, free to all at a certain distance from the coast; therefore Great Britain can indulge in deep-sea sealing in those waters if she pleases.

It is hoped, however, that England's love of justice will convince her that there must be some truth in the statement about the decrease of the seal herd, and not wishing to be the only country engaged in improper sealing, she will eventually add her signature to the treaty.

This seems the more likely as it is reported that at the sealing conference with Great Britain, which follows the Russo-Japanese conference, Sir Wilfrid Laurier, the Canadian Premier, will endeavor to settle the disputed matters satisfactorily.

The Canadian Premier has always desired to maintain the most friendly relations with us, and though he has given no hint of his intentions on the sealing question, it is understood that he means to reach an amicable understanding with us.



It is also said that he intends to see the President while he is in Washington, and if possible clear away all the existing difficulties between Canada and the United States.

The sealing trouble is only one of the matters which need arranging. There is the Kootenay affair, the Klondike question, and a number of other fishery and tariff differences.



OUR Government will soon have an opportunity of testing the value of the reindeer which have been imported into Alaska.

A number of whaling-vessels are fast in the ice off the coast of Alaska, and it is necessary to send food to the sailors on them to save them from starvation.

These ships went up through the Bering Sea this summer to ply their dangerous trade as usual. The winter set in earlier than usual, and eight of them have been caught in the ice off Point Barrow, which is on the north of Alaska, jutting out into the Arctic Ocean.

There are about two hundred and seventy-five men on these vessels. Not expecting to spend the winter in the Arctic Ocean, they were not prepared for such an emergency, and none of them carried more than a three-months' supply of food. The gravest fears are entertained lest they die of starvation.

The matter was brought to the attention of the President, who immediately called a Cabinet council, at which it was decided to send a relief expedition to these men.

The plan is to charter a steam-whaler, the *Thrasher*,

which is now at San Francisco, and send her with provisions and clothing to Port Clarence, which you will find marked just below Cape Prince of Wales, the most easterly point of our continent, which bounds the Bering Straits on the American side.

If it is impossible to get so far north as this, it is proposed to put in at Norton Sound, on which St. Michaels is situated, the port which has come into so much prominence lately through the discovery of gold on the Klondike.

Whichever of these points can be reached, it is proposed to send the provisions across Alaska to Point Barrow by reindeer.

There is a reindeer station at Point Clarence, and so it would be better to reach this spot if possible; but the captain of the revenue-cutter *Bear*, which cruises in Alaskan waters, says that there is too much ice already for it to be possible to reach either Port Clarence or St. Michaels.

The reindeer will, however, be used when other means of travelling are impossible, and they will bring the supplies to the imprisoned whalers.

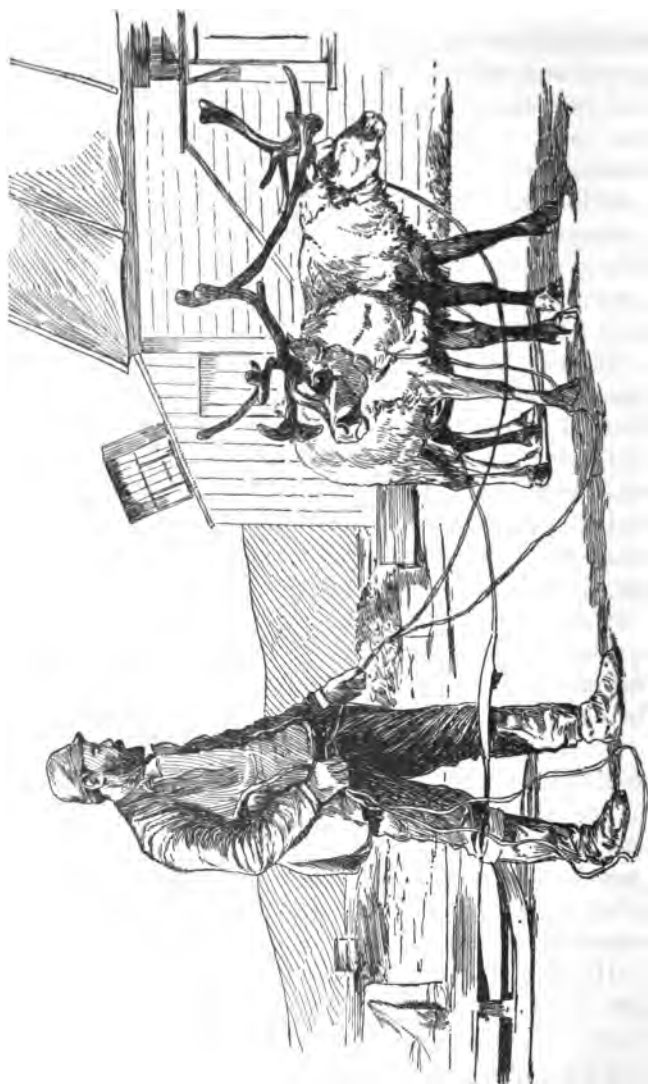
There are at present eleven hundred head of deer in Alaska, all in a healthy and thriving condition.

Last December, the superintendent of the reindeer station at Port Clarence thought he would try and see just how useful these beasts could be made, and whether it would be possible, by their aid, to establish communication between Arctic Alaska and civilization.

He took with him nine sleds, seventeen reindeer, and two Lapp teamsters.

Here is his description of the trip:

"The journey was a very difficult one. Barren



REINDER TEAM.  
*From Photograph Taken in Alaska.*

mountains whose sides had been swept bare by blizzards, and ravines which held deep snowdrifts, had to be crossed. The icy waters of mountain torrents had to be forded; sometimes a way had to be cut with axes through tangled undergrowth. The cold was intense, sometimes 73° below zero."

Though reindeer moss was found in sufficient quantities throughout the entire trip, at one time the party was storm-bound on the mountains, and the animals were thirty-six hours without food.

The hardy creatures suffered no permanent injury from this long fast, and their skins, thickly covered with long hair, were sufficient to protect them from the icy blasts.

With servants such as these to do its bidding, there is every hope that the Government may be able to send provisions to the unfortunate whalers before they begin to suffer the pangs of hunger.

Cheering news has been received from the captain of the whaling-steamer *Devall* and the captain of the revenue-cutter *Bear*, who state that there are between three hundred and four hundred barrels of flour at the Point Barrow refuge-station, probably within reach of the men.

The *Bear*, which is now at Seattle, has been ordered to prepare for another Arctic trip, and be ready to push on through the Straits as soon as the spring comes, and go round to Point Barrow to rescue the whalers, in case the packing of the ice has crushed and wrecked their vessels.

The *Bear* has a noteworthy Arctic record. It was this vessel which was sent in search of, and was successful in finding, the Greeley expedition.

**T**HERE is a good deal of discussion on the subject of football just now.

The fatal accidents which have befallen the players already this season have led people to think it a brutal sport, and many are setting their faces against it.

The legislature of Georgia has forbidden football within the state limits, and all the prominent colleges in the country are discussing the idea of prohibiting it.

Chicago has come to the front as bravely as it did in the crusade against the high hats in theatres.

The same alderman who offered the resolution to suppress the hats has evolved a new one which will make him famous.

It reads: "An Ordinance to Prohibit the Playing of Football."

While football is a fine, manly sport, the objectors have good reason on their side for wishing to suppress it.

A good many young fellows seem to forget the true sporting spirit in which they should play the game, and to use it as a means for paying off old grudges.

If they cannot rise above their own feelings in the game, the sooner it is forbidden the better.

A statement from a noted Harvard Right Tackle has appeared, which is so shocking to all true sportsmen that they can but feel that Georgia's example cannot too soon be followed by the other States.

This statement is in reference to a famous game played in 1889. It says that in the rival team was a man who had been the Right Tackle's unsuccessful

rival at a preparatory college. In the course of the game this man walked deliberately up to the Right Tackle, kicked him severely, then limping off to the umpire, complained that the Harvard man had kicked him. The Harvard man was ruled out of the game, and as he left the field his rival again approached him, and said: "I've got even for that old grudge at —— College." The Harvard man knocked him down, and that ended the matter.

It seems incredible that men calling themselves gentlemen should not only do such things, but speak of them unconcernedly afterward.

In England, which is the home of football, the game is rough enough, but kicking or "hacking," as it is called, is not allowed, and the man who would deliberately strike or seek to injure another in the course of a game on account of a private grudge would be forced to leave college and hounded out of society. The love of sport for sport's sake is so well developed in England that a man would be disgraced for life who would so far forget himself as to permit any such exhibition as the one quoted above.

G. H. ROSENFELD.

## WORD-BUILDING PRIZE CONTEST.

*The Great Round World, 3 and 5 West 18th St., N. Y.*

GENTLEMEN: I am in receipt of the kodak camera won as a prize in the recent contest, and wish to thank you most heartily for it. It is a gratification to win anything by the exercise of one's wits, and I shall highly prize the kodak and appreciate your generosity as well.

Very cordially yours,

HANNAH K. PECK.

MERIDEN, CONN., NOV. 12th, 1897.

*The Great Round World, 3 and 5 West 18th St., N. Y.*

GENTLEMEN: My daughter begs to acknowledge with many thanks the receipt of the pocket kodak, being the second prize in the recent contest. . . .

Very truly yours,

ELEANOR DU BOIS.

By CORNELIUS DU BOIS.

Nov. 13th, 1897.

## EDITORIAL NOTE.

THERE has been so much interest manifested in the Prize Contests that we are going to continue them, and one is begun this week which should be very interesting to all our readers.

See the advertising pages for details and list of prizes, of which there are many more than in the other contests.

## INVENTION AND DISCOVERY.

**ELECTRIC HAIR-DRYER.**—This is an idea that will find favor with all women who have long hair and dread the long, tedious process of drying, and the misery and tangles that are a part of the first combing after the hair is dry.

It is an electric hair-dryer, partly comb and partly brush. It is connected with an electric wire which heats a sliding plate in the inside. The dryer is passed over the hair, smoothing it and removing



the tangles, and drying it at the same time by means of the heated plate inside.

It can be easily adapted to every house where electricity is used, as a small wire attached to the lights will do the work required.

The hair-dryer is carefully insulated, and there is no danger of the user receiving an electric shock.

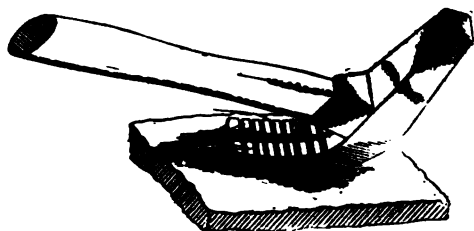
The dryer should become a favorite toilet article. The softness and silkiness of the hair is greatly enhanced by constant washing, and yet there are many women to whom the dangling of damp locks means a sure cold in the head and sore throat.



**HAMMER.**—Any one who has tried to pull nails with the claw of a hammer will appreciate this little device which has just been patented.

The claw end of the hammer is provided with a number of grooves, into which a little bar fits and locks.

When you go to draw a nail, instead of the half-dozen hit-or-miss slips that are the usual fate of such



attempts, the bar falls down in front of the nail as the claw grips it from the back. The nail is held in a vise and must come out willy-nilly.

This new hammer is likely to save amateur carpenters more worry and wounded fingers than any contemporary invention.

# THE GREAT ROUND WORLD



AND WHAT IS GOING ON IN IT.

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VOL. 1

DECEMBER 2, 1897.

No. 56

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**T**HE recent despatches from India tell us that the soldiers who are fighting on the frontier have performed another gallant deed.

The heroes, this time, belonged to the Northamptonshire regiment.

It was necessary for the British to find out if the enemy was encamped anywhere in the neighborhood, so a portion of the troops left the British camp and marched to the summit of a mountain called Saran Sar.

There were no signs of the Afridis as they marched along, and the top of the hill was reached with little difficulty.

There they found the remains of a hastily vacated camp, and from the various signs that were around became convinced that the enemy was on the mountain with them.

Fearing an ambush, the British commander ordered his men to retreat, and the manoeuvre had hardly been put in effect before the tribesmen appeared.

Following the troops closely, the Afridis fired on

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them from behind every bush and rock that offered cover, and, after many of the English soldiers had been killed or wounded, the tribesmen became so bold that they rushed from their cover and engaged in a hand-to-hand encounter with the soldiers.

General Westmacott, who commanded the party, at once realized that he had serious work before him, and hastily arranging his forces so that he could care for the wounded and move his men as quickly as possible, the commander hastened the retreat.

It was, however, difficult to do; and in the hurry of the retreat one little party, which had charge of a convoy of wounded comrades, became separated from the rest of their comrades and were surrounded by the angry tribesmen.

The retreating army reached the camp safely about dark, and then it was discovered that a lieutenant named McIntyre and twelve soldiers were missing.

It was at first hoped that they had simply dropped behind and would reach camp any moment. When, however, hours passed and they did not return, the worst fears were entertained.

At last a soldier arrived, bringing with him the dreadful news, and telling the story of the gallant deed of the lieutenant and his brave companions.

It seems that the rough ground over which they had to travel made the progress of this little party very slow, and the care of the wounded under their charge hampered their movements so much that they at last found themselves completely cut off from their comrades.

As soon as the young officer realized what had happened to him, he despatched one of his men for

aid, and with the others formed a ring around the wounded, preparing to defend them until help arrived.

The wounded men, on their part, behaved as nobly as the lieutenant himself.

Realizing the situation, they begged the young officer to leave them to their fate, and do what he could to save his own life and the lives of his men.

Mr. McIntyre absolutely refused to abandon the wounded, and prepared to defend them to the last.

When the messenger last saw the gallant little band, they were bravely facing the enemy, waiting calmly for the death which was sure to follow unless help reached them soon.

A party was immediately sent out from camp to their relief, but when the spot was reached the brave fellows were beyond human aid.

Not a man remained alive to tell the tale of their noble struggle. The bodies of the lieutenant and his men were found grouped about the wounded comrades they had sacrificed their lives to save, and their attitude in death showed that each man had died doing his duty, his face to the foe.



**S**OME of the tribesmen have come to the conclusion that the British soldier is a hard foe to beat.

The Orakzais have therefore sent a deputation to Gen. Sir William Lockhart, the British commander-in-chief, asking for peace.

Sir William was willing to talk to them, but the terms he offered were so much harder than they ex-

pected that the Orakzais do not seem inclined to accept them.

The English general told the tribesmen that the only terms on which England would treat with them were that they should first give back all the rifles they had captured since the outbreak, then that they should forfeit five hundred extra rifles and thirty thousand rupees as a fine, and lastly, that they must offer submission to the Queen's rule within a fortnight,—the submission to be given at a full durbar, which is a native Indian term for a levee or reception held by a native prince or officer of rank in British India.

As we have said, the Orakzais think these terms too severe, and are inclined to refuse them.

The Afridis have as yet shown no signs of weakening. On the contrary, they have sent fresh messengers to the Ameer of Afghanistan, asking his aid. The English are confident that he will refuse, and advise them to submit, and hope that there may soon be an end of the Indian troubles.

In the mean while the Afridis are making all the trouble they can. Every night they cut the telegraph-wires, and every day they lay in wait for any baggage convoy or foraging party that leaves the camp.



You will be pleased to hear more about the brave piper of the Gordon Highlanders, who, though shot through both ankles at the battle of Dargai Ridge, propped himself up, and continued playing on his pipes to cheer his comrades.

The Indian despatches say that he has been recommended for the Victoria Cross.

This decoration is the English reward for great bravery. It is the decoration of all others which British soldiers love to receive.

It is a simple little bronze cross, of the shape known as a Maltese cross; in the centre is the crown, with the British lion standing upon it, and on a scroll beneath the inscription "For Valor." For soldiers it has a red ribbon, for sailors a blue. The slide through which the ribbon passes is a bronze bar ornamented with a laurel wreath, the symbol of victory.

The value of the Victoria Cross is practically nothing, but those men who have been happy enough to earn it value it above any riches or honors.

Piper Findlater, of the Gordon Highlanders, is a proud fellow just now, and would not be willing to change places with any duke or millionaire, no matter how great his rank or wealth, for in that little simple cross he has gained something that rank cannot command nor money buy; something that he possesses and the commanding officer of his regiment may not be able to gain; something which raises him to the highest place among men.

We felt sure you would be glad to learn that the brave piper was not killed at Dargai Ridge, but lives to receive the reward for his gallant conduct.



There is trouble in Haiti.

Haiti is in the West Indies, and is a sister island of Cuba, and the next largest of the Antilles. It is divided from Cuba by a strait called the Windward Passage.

It was discovered by Columbus in 1492, and the first Spanish colony in the New World was estab-

lished on it in 1493. After a while, the colony was neglected and died out, and Haiti became the prey of buccaneers, those bold seafaring men, who, half pirates and half rovers, sailed the seas during the seventeenth and early part of the eighteenth centuries, harassing foreign foes for private gain.

After many ups and downs, the western half of Haiti was settled by French buccaneers, and after another period this portion of the island was ceded to France by Spain in 1693.

The French rule did not please the natives, and a long period of discontent followed, till, in 1796, the Haitians, under the leadership of Toussaint L'Ouverture, rebelled against the French and drove them from the island.

The victorious insurgents then set about conquering the eastern portion of the island, and for a time held possession of it. After a time, however, it was divided into two portions: the western end which the natives had secured from the French was called Haiti, and the eastern eventually became the Republic of San Domingo.

The inhabitants of Haiti are negroes, or, to be more exact, nine-tenths are negroes and the rest mulattoes; the whites are not very numerous, and are principally foreign merchants and traders.

The President of Haiti is a colored man, named Tiresias Simon Sam, and the officers of the government are all colored people.

The language of the country is a dialect known as Creole French. The official reports of Haiti say that the President is elected for seven years, but that his term is generally cut short by insurrections.

A good many Germans have settled in Port-au-Prince, the capital city of Haiti, but, white people being so scarce in the island, the consuls are kept busy trying to secure justice for their countrymen.

Last fall, the German consul to Haiti, Count Schwerin, was asked to adjust the present difficulty.

The servant of a young German named Lueders was accused of committing some crime, and, according to the story, a dozen stalwart Haitian policemen went to Mr. Lueder's house and forcibly arrested him.

Mr. Lueders went to police headquarters to complain of the conduct of the officers, and was at once arrested and charged with interfering with the officers while doing their duty, and also with attempting to kill them.

He was at once fined \$48 and sent to jail for a month.

Mr. Lueders claimed that he was innocent and could prove it, and asked for a second trial. When this was given him, he brought forward witnesses who proved that he had not attempted to interfere with the police.

In spite of this, he was again found guilty, and sentenced to one year's imprisonment and \$500 fine, presumably to punish him for demanding the second trial.

The German consul had followed both the trials with great interest, and when the second decision was rendered he felt that it was time for him to interfere.

He telegraphed to Berlin for instructions, and in reply received orders to demand the immediate release of Lueders, and to insist that damages to the amount of \$1,000 be paid by Haiti for every day Mr.



Lueders had already spent in jail—twenty in all, and an extra \$5,000 for every day's imprisonment after the request for his release was received.

At first President Simon Sam refused to listen to the demand, and Mr. Lueders remained another six days in jail.

Then the German minister sent word to the President that he had hauled down his flag, sent his valuable papers to the care of the United States consul, and had broken off all relations with the Haitian government.

This announcement caused considerable excitement in Port-au-Prince. The Germans and the natives both became indignant, and the feeling ran so high that the angry blacks threatened to attack the German Legation and burn it to the ground, and then lynch Lueders.

Fearing a serious outbreak which might call down the wrath of Germany, President Simon Sam decided that the wisest thing to do was to get rid of Lueders; so the young man was hurried from his prison and put on board a steamer bound for New York.

By the time this was done Germany's pride had been aroused, and a war-vessel had been ordered to sail for Port-au-Prince, and insist upon reparation being made, under pain of bombardment of the town.

Of course, this is not a pleasant outlook for Haiti, but the natives are not so frightened as they might be, because it is well known that Germany has not an alarming navy, and it will probably be a good long time before she can send a ship to Port-au-Prince, and in the mean while other things may have occurred to make her forget the difficulty.

As a matter of fact, the only vessel available for the purpose is not ready to go to sea, and cannot be made ready before December 10th, and it will then be some time before she can reach Haiti.

The Germans are much annoyed that they will have to put up with the little republic's impudence for so long a time, and one political party in Germany is taking advantage of the opportunity to urge the necessity of enlarging the navy.

The Emperor of Germany has for some time past been insisting that it should be increased, and has asked that large grants of money be made for that purpose, but the majority of the people have not been in sympathy with him.

Germany's sea-coast is very small, and they think it a waste of money to build and maintain an expensive navy to defend it.

The party in favor of the navy are now declaring that, if Germany wants to keep the respect of other nations, she must maintain her dignity by having war-vessels ready to punish offenders.

The Germans in Haiti are in full sympathy with this idea. They complain that they are not treated with half the consideration and respect that the American residents are, and they say that President Simon Sam behaves better to the Americans only because he knows that he would have a United States cruiser after him in a very few hours, if he attempted any high-handed dealings with our citizens.

We have lately been accused by both England and Japan of being discourteous in our diplomatic relations with other countries; it is therefore some satisfaction to know that the Germans in Haiti greatly ap-

preciate the methods which our foreign ministers employ.

In the course of the discussions over the Haitian troubles it has been said that while we are not formal in our diplomatic work, and do not always use the polite forms which etiquette demands, our ministers have a manly, direct way of going about their business which gains the desired point every time.

Serious trouble is not anticipated with Haiti; it is really too small a place to be able to oppose a great country like Germany. If she does not speedily obey the wishes of the German government, a taste of the war-ship's big guns will soon bring her to her senses.



**N**ANSEN, the Arctic explorer, is in this country, and it will interest you to know that he fully believes that Andrée is all right, and will return safely in due course of time.

Of all men Fridjiof Nansen is best able to form an opinion as to the likelihood of Professor Andrée ever returning to us, for he himself has penetrated farther north than any other Arctic explorer, and has learned so much about the Polar Sea that he is able to form a good opinion as to the possibilities of Andrée's success.

Nansen returned from his famous voyage before **THE GREAT ROUND WORLD** came into existence, and so you might perhaps like to have us tell you about him.

He is a young Norwegian, only thirty-six years old; very young to have made such a great record.

At the age of nineteen he entered the University of

Christiania and devoted himself to the study of zoölogy, or the science of animals and animal life, from man to the lowest form of life.

When he was twenty he made a voyage into the Northern seas for the purpose of studying animal life in high latitudes.

When he returned he was made Curator of the Natural History Museum in Bergen, Norway. A curator is a person in whose charge the valuable collections in a museum are placed. He is the caretaker or custodian of all the priceless treasures the museum contains.

Six years later Nansen made a trip across Greenland on snow-shoes.

There had long been a theory that in the interior of Greenland there were fertile spots capable of cultivation.

Nansen proved that Greenland is covered with a huge ice-sheet, and is, in fact, one vast glacier which rises slightly toward the interior, the surface of the ice-cap being only occasionally interrupted by mountains which protrude from the ice.

Nansen believed that an Arctic explorer should be able to live the same life as the natives of the land he was exploring, and during his winter in Greenland he lived much with the Eskimos, sleeping in their rude huts of stone and dirt, and joining in their hunts on land and sea.

He learned many useful lessons of these people. One was how to make and manage a kayak, or Eskimo boat, which he declares to be the handiest, lightest, and absolutely best small boat constructed.

It was the knowledge that he gained during this

Greenland winter that enabled him to get one hundred and ninety-five miles nearer the North Pole than any one else had ever done.

He also learned from his Arctic friends how to handle dog-teams.

The Eskimos use dogs for travelling as the Laplanders use reindeer. The dogs are, however, much more difficult to handle, for while they are hardy, strong, intelligent, and willing, they do not make good servants. All their training cannot entirely tame them, and they have certain ways and habits which lessen their usefulness.

They are, for instance, terrible fighters.

Every one who possesses a canine friend knows that this is a very dog-like attribute, and one of which no dog, large or small, can be entirely broken.

We all appreciate how unpleasant it is to be out walking with our favorite French bulldog, and suddenly have our be-ribboned aristocrat forget the dignity that his long pedigree should give him, and dash from our side to make tufts of hair fly from somebody else's equally be-ribboned poodle.

Such an occurrence is serious enough—but it becomes a matter of life and death when, miles from home in a frozen country, you are depending on your dogs to bring you safely back again, and your team forgets its duty and becomes a waving mass of legs and tails, from which you hear nothing but the howls of the vanquished. A dog-fight often becomes one of the most terrible catastrophes that can overtake an explorer.

With these fierce little Eskimo dogs, the result of such an encounter means generally the loss of two or

three, and a walk home with the wounded survivors occupying the sled.

Under the circumstances it is very necessary to understand how to handle these useful but eccentric beasts. The Eskimos have reduced this knowledge to a science, and from them Nansen learned to be the master of those dogs which were of so much service to him in his last and greatest expedition.

This expedition was undertaken in June, 1893, and its object was to drift across the pole from Siberia to Greenland.

During Nansen's Arctic experiences he had noticed that the shores of Greenland were strewn with drift-wood of a kind also found on the shores of Siberia.

The matter caused him some deep thought, and at length he arrived at the conclusion that there must be a current which crosses the Arctic Ocean and carries this material from Asia to America.

After much thought, he came to the conclusion that if he could only build himself a vessel which would withstand the pressure of the ice, and once get into the stream, he and his vessel would be carried with the rest of the drift from Asia to America, and in the course of the trip would be borne right across the North Pole.

It was a bold scheme, and for a time no one would listen to it, but Nansen's reputation stood him in good stead here, and finally convinced people that he must have a good foundation for his belief.

With the aid of a few wealthy persons and the assistance of the King of Sweden, Nansen was able to have a suitable vessel built, and to make preparations for the undertaking.

The greatest danger to Arctic travel is the pressure of the ice. When the winter comes on, and the sea tries to freeze over, the currents and the tides, and the unthawed blocks of ice that have been left from the last winter, cause a terrible disturbance. The ice, in its endeavor to pack itself solidly together, slides over itself with groans and creaks that sound like human cries.

The force the ice exerts under these circumstances is enormous, so great indeed that it can crush big ships, and crack their sides as though they were no stronger than eggshells.

Nansen could not hope to build a ship which should be strong enough to withstand this pressure, but he did hope to make one that would be able to rise above the ice, and escape the crushing altogether.

His object was to have the sides so shaped that the ice would encounter a rounded surface on which it could not get any hold, and would therefore slide lower and lower down the sides of the ship until it at last met under the keel, lifting the ship above the dangerous pressure.

The vessel, which Nansen called the *Fram*, was built according to his own plans, and when finished was a clumsy-looking craft.

In an ordinary sea she pitched and rolled so badly that everybody on board was seasick, and during the first few days of her trip the sailors were one and all afraid that she would roll completely over and go to the bottom.

In the ice she behaved exactly as Nansen had expected she would, and, once frozen to the ice, gave

the explorer no anxiety that she would be crushed or wrecked.

For three long years Nansen and his party were away on their expedition. Steaming from Norway to the coast of Siberia, where he took his pack of dogs on board, Nansen headed for the Polar Sea, and made all the speed he could to reach the farthest north possible before the winter set in, and was finally frozen into the ice where he supposed the current must be which was to bear him across the North Pole.

To his infinite joy, he found, after weeks of uncertainty, that he was actually drifting with the ice, and that his theory was correct.

He did not go as directly north as he had hoped, and on March 14th, 1896, after nearly three years of patient drifting, he made up his mind that the *Fram* had gone as far north as she would go, and that henceforth she would take a southerly course.

He was but three hundred and fifty miles from the Pole, and he determined to make an effort to reach it himself, with the aid of his dogs and kayaks.

He therefore left the *Fram*, and, with but one man to bear him company, he made a dash for the Pole.

He succeeded in covering ninety-five miles of the unknown ocean, and reached within two hundred and sixty-one miles of the Pole, but here he was obliged to turn back. All his dogs were dead and he had but two weeks' provisions left, so he turned his face south.

His surmises about the *Fram* proved correct; she drifted south, and eventually reached Spitzbergen.

The immediate scientific advantages of Nansen's



trip are that he found the Pole was covered by sea, and that no land existed there, as so many persons had believed.

He found that the Polar Sea, far from being shallow, as had also been supposed, was a wide sea of vast depth.

He explored many of the lands that lie in the Polar Sea, and made observations that will be of immense value to geologists and botanists.

Greatest of all, he proved that it is possible for men to undertake the perils and hardships of an Arctic expedition without loss of life or health. The first of his achievements was the proof that there is a current from Asia to America, in which the *Fram* drifted for three years, not, it is true, carrying him to Greenland, as he had expected, but none the less taking him across the frozen sea, and landing his vessel at Spitzbergen.

Next to it come the ease and comfort with which this tremendous undertaking was accomplished.

During all these long years he did not lose a man, nor indeed were any of his companions sick; the doctor of the expedition had to study diseases of dogs to keep his hand in, so little work was there for him to do.

The story of the voyage reads like the journal of a quiet family at home, it is so peaceful and uneventful. It tells no tales of hardships and privations, no sickness or suffering from the isolation.

It is instead the record of a well-ordered household, in which each man performed the duties assigned to him, duties which gave each enough exercise to tire him out and make him long for the quiet hours of

reading or chess-playing, or games, which were to follow in the cabin when the day's work was done.

During the entire trip Nansen and his men performed the various duties of their lives, turn and turn about, the difference of occupation giving the men the change necessary to keep them in health and spirits.

The journal tells of little simple festivities, with processions round the ship, to celebrate Christmas and birthdays. Of the extra dinners prepared for these great occasions, dinners which made the men feel a little tight about the waist and sleepy at the grand entertainment which always closed a holiday.

The book is full of those little simple nothings which seem hardly worth telling to the outside world, and which are so full of meaning to those who have lived them through.

The diary is only here and there varied with an account of a bear-hunt, or a dog-fight, or a wily bear coming along and stealing a dog or two for his own private consumption. It is at times hard to realize that these men of whom the journal treats were heroes ready to sacrifice their lives in the interest of science, and that in this peaceful, homelike way the greatest voyage of the century was being made.

It will interest you to know that Nansen used every available modern invention to help make his voyage successful and bearable.

In the Arctic regions there are long months when there is no day. The sun disappears beneath the horizon, and does not appear again for weeks. There is no day and no sunshine, only one long night.

This time is the most trying period for Arctic

travellers, and many poor fellows have gone insane under the terrible oppression of the months of darkness.

When this time came, and the sun had bidden its good-by to the *Fram*, Nansen lighted his ship by means of electricity, generated from power obtained from a windmill. When the wind failed the crew manned a capstan, an apparatus used for hauling anchors on board ship, and which Nansen applied to this excellent use.

With light to work by, plenty of work to do, and books and games for the evenings, one would have thought the men were well supplied, but Nansen added yet one more pleasure to their store. A friend had made the expedition a present of a phonograph. Nansen had his faithful wife sing into it all the favorite songs of the day, and so the sailors had one more comfort for their peaceful evenings, in the singing of well-known ballads by a well-loved voice.

\* \* \* \* \*

THE five *Competitor* prisoners have been released from Cabana fortress after an imprisonment of nearly twenty months.

The names of these five men are: Alfredo Laborde, William Gildea, Ona Melton, William Leavitt, Charles Barnett.

By the release of these five men Spain has given us a very decided proof of her desire to keep our friendship.

She has not done the thing by halves either, for an order has been issued to return the prisoners any arms that had been taken from them, and to restore the schooner *Competitor* to its owners.

The five prisoners will sail for New York at once, and will have the happiness of eating their Thanksgiving dinners in their own country.

Three of the five men are native-born Americans; of the other two, one is an Englishman, and the other a naturalized American.

Spain has, however, released them all unconditionally.



**G**ENERAL Weyler has just arrived in Spain, and the trouble we were anticipating is about to begin.

As we told you, his ship had to put into a Cuban port for repairs before he could really set sail for Europe, and at this port he received a deputation of citizens, and repeated to them the speech which had made the Spanish Ministers so angry.

He has been questioned as to the truth of the reports of this speech, but so far has avoided giving a direct answer, and complains that the reports are too long.

He arrived at Corunna, but it was expected that he might land at Santander, and so his admirers in that city set to work to raise funds for a big reception to him.

One of the features of the affair was to be a flight of rockets, six thousand in number, which, upon exploding, should scatter ribbons inscribed "Viva Weyler."

Subscriptions were immediately started to secure the funds necessary for this magnificent display.

After two weeks of uninterrupted labor the committee had secured \$7.80.

The persons in charge of the fête became a little embarrassed how to spend this sum. As it had been collected from, and sent by, unknown admirers, it could not be returned.

One practical friend suggested that one of the committee should make a sketch of the celebrations as they had intended them to be, and spend the \$7.80 in having a nice photograph made for Weyler of the proposed festivities.



THE promised reforms have not yet been granted to the Cubans, and it is reported that General Blanco is so annoyed at the condition of affairs that he is on the point of asking to be recalled.

He finds he has been deceived about the state of the Spanish army in Cuba, and the dislike of the Spanish party in the island to Home Rule has also been a sad stumbling-block in his way. These people throw every possible obstacle in his path.

The General feels that he is in a false position, and is most unhappy over it.

Spain is expecting him to open a brilliant fall campaign, and he is unable to do this because he finds himself at the head of a body of ill-paid, hungry, and disaffected soldiers, who are neither fit for difficult work nor willing to undertake it.

On the other hand, a portion of the Cubans are expecting reforms and help from him, and this he cannot give because he is hampered by the ill-will of the officials and the delays of the home Government.

The peasants have been permitted to return to their homes, and permission has been given to commence

sugar-grinding. But in the present state of the country this permission amounts to nothing. The planters have no money to pay for grinding sugar, and unless the Government aids them it will be impossible for them to begin operations.

The peasants have no homes to go to, and unless they are cared for until they are able to care for themselves they must starve.

An edict was issued arranging for certain lines of cultivation that were to be started by the peasants, in the hope of helping them. The laborers engaged in this work were to report to the military commanders, and be under military protection.

Nothing further has, however, been done to carry out this plan, and indeed it seems doubtful if anything can be done. Spain has no money, and the Spanish soldiers need food for themselves—how then can the Spanish commanders supply the peasants with farming implements and grain, and care for them until kindly earth yields its crop?

General Blanco seems to have unearthed some serious frauds during his investigation. He has asked the Spanish government to send out a general named Escribana to him, that he may make him account for the cattle which he is supposed to have supplied for the consumption of the army, but which never came to hand.

In the mean time the Cubans are gaining victories all over the island, and the leaders seem more determined than ever to accept nothing but liberty from the Spaniards.

General Gomez has notified President McKinley of this fact.

He sent him a note in which he recited the struggles and sufferings of the Cubans, reminded him of the blood that had been spilled in the cause of freedom, and assured him again that under no circumstances would the patriots end the war until Spain had given up the island.

A Spanish general has been sent out by Blanco to take command of the eastern army, and reduce the rebels to submission. He reports, however, that the troops under him are in such a poor condition that he can expect very little from them.

In Spain the Carlists are causing a good deal of anxiety. The Pope has received certain information that a great rising is indeed contemplated. Espousing the cause of the infant King Alphonso, he has sent a letter to the Spanish clergy, desiring them to refrain from encouraging the rebellion.

There are constant rumors of risings, and arms and ammunition have been seized in several towns of Spain.

It seems certain that Don Carlos is only waiting for a favorable opportunity to commence hostilities.



THE sheriff and deputies who shot at the strikers in the recent trouble at Hazleton have been indicted by the Grand Jury for murder, and must all be tried for this crime.

The Grand Jury is a body of men, generally twenty-four in number, whose duty it is to look into complaints of crimes that have been committed, and decide whether they are really serious enough to go to trial.

A trial by jury costs the people a great deal of money and time, and it would not be right to allow this money to be expended unless it was pretty sure that a crime had been committed, and that the accused person was in some way connected with it.

A man will sometimes accuse another of a crime for spite. If it were not for the Grand Jury the case would be brought before the judge, and it might take weeks for the accused man to prove his innocence. In the mean while he would have been branded by the world as a criminal.

With the Grand Jury such a state of affairs is impossible.

The Jury must first be convinced that the supposed crime has been committed, and then that the accused person is connected with it, before they find what is called a true bill, and allow the case to go to the courts.

In the Hazleton case the Grand Jury has decided that a crime was committed by the deputies in firing on strikers, and the sheriff and his posse will have to prove that their action was justifiable, or else suffer the penalty of their crime.

G. H. ROSENFELD.



## BOOK REVIEWS.

## STORY OF ULYSSES.

**T**HIS book consists of a series of stories of the fortunes and misfortunes that befell Ulysses in his wanderings for ten years after the capture of Troy. The stories are arranged in a different order from that in the Odyssey, and form a most delightful narrative. The author, Agnes Spafford Cook, is an excellent Greek scholar, and has been very successful in making the deeper meanings of this great poem shine through these stories of the trials of the wisest of Greek heroes in his struggle against the efforts of the gods to prevent him from returning to his native land.

The book is well illustrated and attractively bound in cloth. Price, 50 cents.

**"PIERRE and His Poodle,"** by Elizabeth W. Champney, is a prettily illustrated, bright little story of a little French boy and his master's poodle. Pierre, in his attempts to find Popotte, the runaway poodle, has many adventures, strange and fascinating. He finally recovers the dog, and the story winds up with happy futures in prospect for the hero and heroine and their friends. (Dodd, Mead & Co.)

## LETTERS FROM OUR YOUNG FRIENDS.

*Editor of "Great Round World."*

DEAR SIR:—Being advised that THE GREAT ROUND WORLD was a very interesting and useful paper for use in the schoolroom, I have for several weeks been a subscriber for your magazine. It is needless to say that my pupils as well as myself have found the articles contained therein very interesting.

In your issue of November 4th I notice that there were printed several letters from a school in Foxboro, Mass.

As my pupils are interested in letter-writing, I think it would be a great incentive toward the accomplishment of good work in that direction if they may be allowed to write a batch of letters to the editor of THE GREAT ROUND WORLD, with the hope that one or two of the best of them will be printed in your paper. Hoping that you will give the letters, which I herewith enclose, your gracious attention, I am

Very truly yours,

HARRIET B. RAYMOND.

WESTPORT, CONN., November 11th, 1897.

DEAR MADAM:

We are only too happy to comply with your very pleasant request. It is our desire to be of service to our readers, and if the fact of writing to us will help them in their studies we shall be only too delighted to have them write to us as often as they feel inclined.

Pray tell them that we will take pleasure in answering every good letter that we receive. EDITOR.

We take pleasure in publishing the two following letters from our little friends in Poplar Plains.

All the letters were interesting, and showed that the young readers had studied THE GREAT ROUND WORLD very carefully. We would have been delighted to publish them all, but space forbade. EDITOR.

DEAR EDITOR:

Your paper is so very interesting that the teacher reads to us some of the stories, one of which I liked very much. It was about the forest fires, and we were very anxious to have the next paper come. Some of the other scholars of my school are going to write and tell you what they think is the best story. Good-by,

Your friend,

EDNA R. C.

WESTPORT, CONN., November 12th, 1897.

DEAR EDITOR:

My teacher has been reading some very interesting articles from your paper, THE GREAT ROUND WORLD. I think the most interesting articles were about the forest fires, the Klondike regions, and about the large and useful bicycles, and about the great wars that are going on now. I think you are very kind in sending your paper to the people.

Your friend,

IDA B. K.

WESTPORT, CONN., November 12th, 1897.

DEAR EDITOR:

I am very much interested about Cuba and all the wars that are going on, also about Klondike.

I wish you would write something about the mines in

## And What is Going On in It 1593

Mexico, because my father has gone down there to some mines.

Yours truly,

W. E. W.

OGDENSBURG, November 14th, 1897.

DEAR YOUNG FRIEND:

Many thanks for your kind letter.

We will be glad to chat with you about the mines in Mexico as soon as we can find space.

THE GREAT ROUND WORLD is a *newspaper*. We try to tell you week by week of the important events that have been happening in the world. We have therefore but little room in our pages for any stories that are not closely connected with some recent event.

To give you pleasure we will endeavor to make room in the earliest number possible.

In the mean while, will you not send us an account of the mine to which your father has gone? He has probably written home to you and told you some interesting things which we should all like to know. Won't you write us another letter, giving us your father's account of the mine he has gone to?

EDITOR.

## INVENTION AND DISCOVERY.

**POCKET-KNIFE.**—Here is an excellent thing in pocket-knives.

Attached to the handle is a revolving plate which, when the knife is opened, turns round and catches the blade firmly, making it impossible for it to close and holding it absolutely rigid.

So many accidents have occurred through the slip-



ping of the pocket-knife that it seems strange such a simple device as this should not have been thought of before.

We are aware that there have been several knives made with springs to hold the blade firmly when open, but these have all been large and clumsy knives, whereas the one illustrated is really what it pretends to be—a pocket-knife.

G. H. R.

# THE GREAT ROUND WORLD



AND WHAT IS GOING ON IN IT.

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VOL. 1

DECEMBER 9, 1897.

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**G**ERMANY is furnishing us with some interesting news this week.

She has successfully accomplished something which, to simple folks who are not diplomatists, seems like a plain, every-day case of robbery.

Here is the story of it, and you can judge for yourselves.

Some German missionaries have been killed in China, and Germany has seized a Chinese port in revenge.

Missionaries are, as you know, holy and devoted men who go to far countries to spread the knowledge of the Gospel among heathen and unenlightened people.

These good men have always suffered much for their faith. They go wherever their duty calls, and even carry their message of peace to the terrible cannibals who kill and eat men.

In the early annals of our own country we have records of the terrible sufferings endured by these good men in their missionary work among the redskins.

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Missionaries count their perils and their privations as nothing if they can but do the work of God.

Every government is particularly careful to do all that it can to protect its missionaries, and if ignorant savages do them harm, an attempt is always made to punish the wrongdoers, to teach them that these servants of God are well protected.

The German Catholic Church some time ago established a mission in Shantung Province, China. Recently the sad news was received in Berlin that the mission at Yen Chu Fu had been attacked, and two missionaries killed.

The shameful deed was at first attributed to pirates, but later it was found that it had been planned by the governor of the province in revenge for some old grievance.

Following this outrage came news that the captain of a German gunboat had been attacked by a Chinese mob, which also insulted the German flag by throwing stones at it.

The Government was extremely angry at this, and immediately demanded an explanation from China.

The Chinese Government expressed its sorrow for the occurrence, and sent orders to the governor of Shantung to arrest and punish the offenders.

Germany was informed of the action taken by the Chinese Government, which, it is said, used all possible diligence and haste to bring the offenders to justice; so much diligence, in fact, that on the 15th of the month the governor of Shantung telegraphed that he had arrested four of the culprits.

Germany, however, went right ahead in her own way, without paying any heed to the efforts China

was making to appease her; and to the intense surprise of the world, simultaneously with the news of the arrests came word that Germany had seized one of the Chinese harbors in the Yellow Sea.

The Yellow Sea is on the east of China, and is formed by the peninsula of Korea. Shantung, where the missionaries were killed, is a province bordering on the Yellow Sea, and the fortified bay captured by the Germans is called Kiao Chou, and is an excellent harbor on the Shantung Coast, with the town of Kiao lying at its head.

This harbor was guarded by three forts, which were manned by fifteen hundred Chinese soldiers.

Without word or warning the German admiral entered the bay, steamed up opposite the forts, and ranged his ships in line of battle. He then sent word to the Chinese commander that the three forts must be vacated within three hours or he would bombard them.

The Chinese commander made no answer, so the German admiral proceeded to land a force of men to take possession of the place.

The Chinamen watched the proceedings without making any demonstration, and allowed the Germans to land six hundred soldiers and several guns without making an effort to prevent them.

As soon, however, as the force began to march upon the forts, the Chinese became panic-stricken, and fled helter-skelter to the hills.

The Germans marched into the forts in good order, and took possession of them without striking a blow. They then hauled down the Chinese flag and ran up their own in its place.



It was found that the Chinese commander and his family had not fled with the rest of the garrison, and as these people promptly placed themselves under the protection of Germany, there was no trouble with them.

The German soldiers proceeded to man the forts, and Germany is now in possession of them. It is believed that she means to keep them.

China is justly indignant at this act on the part of Germany, and fully realizes that she has good cause to declare war; but she is so weak in military and naval force that she is not able to resent the outrage, and the robbers are likely to be able to hold their prize.

Europe is astonished that Germany should have committed such a daring act. It has been understood by all the European nations that when savages misbehave, the only way to teach them manners is to step in and seize their lands; but China is not a savage country, and the Chinese cannot be treated like ignorant barbarians. Every one is wondering what the outcome will be.

Germany evidently expects war, and is preparing for it. She has withdrawn her troops from Crete, and has sent them to the East, it is supposed to Kiao Chou.

You remember, of course, that when the Powers occupied Crete, each nation in the combination landed a certain number of soldiers on the island to help preserve peace.

Some of these soldiers have been at Crete ever since, and some have been withdrawn. England called hers away some time since, and now Germany,

having use for her soldiers in China, has ordered hers to other duty.

It is said that the Emperor William has long desired to own a port in China, and that he has used the murder of the missionaries as a pretext to help him gain his ends.

We told you last week of his desire to increase the German navy. To accomplish this, it will be necessary for him to do as other nations do, that is, have ports all over the world where he can coal and repair his ships. He has therefore looked with longing eyes on Kiao Chou.

This harbor is one of the best along the coast; so good, indeed, is it, that Russia has been making offers to buy it. It has a great advantage in being far away from the British and Russian ports, thereby diminishing the chances of interference.

The Chinese have protested against Germany's unlawful act, and asked her when she proposes to withdraw her troops, as they have secured the offenders, and removed all cause of offence. Germany has made no reply, so China fears she means to keep the harbor she has taken.

Many people believe that some such act has long been contemplated by the Emperor.

China has, however, appealed to Russia for help, and as France and England are equally interested in the matter, serious trouble may ensue.

Russia has more than doubled her fleet in the Yellow Sea, and has now thirty-eight vessels in the neighborhood. England, France, and America have also sent ships thither.

From the news as we know it, it seems as if Ger-

many had committed a very shameful act; but when we hear both sides of the question, we may find that she has only done the right thing for the preservation of her national honor.



**T**HE Sultan of Turkey has been getting into trouble again. Both Russia and Austria have been making things unpleasant for him.

Since his successes in the war he has begun to think himself a very important sovereign, and both Russia and Austria decided that if he were not checked he might become a very dangerous neighbor, so they met in consultation, and laid their plans for checking his ambition.

They first incited Bulgaria to rebel.

Bulgaria is a small principality on the north of Turkey, which is under the sovereignty of Turkey. Bulgaria enjoys home rule, and is governed by a prince elected by the people; the prince must not, however, be a member of any of the reigning families of Europe. Bulgaria is, however, a tributary state, and has to contribute toward the support of Turkey.

Instigated by Austria and Russia, Bulgaria demanded several small favors from the Sultan, insolently adding that if they were not granted she would declare her independence and throw off the yoke of Turkey.

Now until the peace with Greece is absolutely signed and sealed, the Sultan of Turkey cannot afford to quarrel with anybody, so he was obliged to give in, and grant Bulgaria's demands; but her independence made him feel somewhat uneasy, and so he sent a

number of soldiers to the Bulgarian frontier, to make sure that the Bulgarians behaved.

This was exactly what Austria and Russia desired. With her troops scattered, and uneasy nations on her borders, Turkey is much less dangerous.

The Bulgarian matter had hardly been settled when Austria discovered a new means of checking Turkey.

The Turkish officials in Asia Minor ill-treated an Austrian subject. He was the agent of the Austrian Lloyd's Steamship Company at Mersina, and had been summarily expelled from the city by order of the officials.

The Austrian consul at once interfered, and was grossly insulted by the Mutessarif, who is a sort of mayor, and also by the Vali, or governor, of Adana, in which province Mersina is situated. Adana is one of the Turkish provinces on the Mediterranean Sea, and Mersina is one of its chief seaport towns.

The incident being exactly what Austria had been wishing for, a great deal was made of it. The Austrian ambassador at Constantinople sent word that his flag had been insulted, and demanded that Turkey should formally salute the Austrian flag, that both of the offending officials must be immediately dismissed, and the agent given money damages.

The ambassador informed the Sultan that, in case of refusal, he should leave Constantinople, and sever all diplomatic relations with Turkey, and that warships should proceed to Mersina and bombard it.

The Sultan did not like to be treated in this way, and took time to decide what he should do.

The ambassador sent a second letter, when he had waited as long as he thought right for an answer to

his first, with the added demand that Turkey should also pay the claims of the Oriental Railroad Company, and that the matter should be decided inside of eight days.

The claim of this railroad company was for carrying troops during the war, and the bill for this service had not been paid.

Now the Oriental Railroad Company is not owned by Austria, but by Austrian citizens, and it was an unheard-of thing for a government to seek to collect the private debts of her citizens at the cannon's mouth. Europe has, however, been doing remarkable things to Turkey for many years past.

The Sultan dared not refuse Austria, any more than Bulgaria, until the peace with Greece was signed, and so was forced to agree to all of Austria's demands.

In six days he had made up his mind, and a polite message was sent by the Porte (the Turkish Government) to Austria, that the ill-treatment of the Austrian citizen was a matter of deep regret, and that the Porte would pay the required money damages, would discharge the offending officials, and send warships to salute the Austrian flag; and last, but not least, the Porte would pay the railroad company's bill, which amounted to the nice little sum of \$1,250,000.

The letter concluded by stating that the Sultan desired the good will of the Emperor of Austria, and hoped that nothing might intervene to endanger it.

By this little action Austria and Russia succeeded in weakening Turkey still more through her treasury; but even then they were not satisfied.

Russia had found out that the Sultan intended to

spend part of the indemnity Turkey was to obtain from Greece in strengthening his navy; in fact, with Germany's help he meant to have the finest navy in the world.

This did not suit Russia at all. It became known that Germany had arranged to supply Turkey with a perfectly equipped navy—guns, equipment, and all complete—for one-quarter of the money coming from Greece.

Turkey has been bankrupt for many years, and owes money to most of the nations of Europe, so when Russia learned of this dangerous activity on her part, she took advantage of the old debts to prevent it.

She sent word that if Turkey was in a position to buy a navy, she must be also in a position to pay her debts, and therefore Russia would like to have the old account of 1878 settled.

This is a war debt which Turkey owes Russia because of the last war between them.

This debt is an extremely heavy one, and the Porte, becoming frightened lest Russia should insist on its payment, hastened to inform the Czar that nothing definite had been arranged about the navy.

Russia replied that the moment Turkey shall attempt to build up her navy or increase her war supplies, she will insist on the payment of this debt.

After a few days of reflection, the Porte informed the Russian ambassador that Turkey had decided not to make any changes in her navy for the present.

Between them, Austria and Russia have succeeded in crushing the Sultan's ambition for the present.



**T**HESE are, however, not all of Abdul Hamid's troubles.

Crete, which he had begun to regard as his rightful property, has once more become a thorn in his side.

Confident of his power, he has been assuming a haughty tone with the Greek ambassador sent to settle the treaty, and insisted that he accept the terms as they were without venturing on any changes. He has also kept his soldiers in Crete, and sent a Turk as governor of the island despite the protests of the Powers.

He has, in fact, been doing pretty much as he pleased, believing that Europe was afraid of him, and that he was master of the situation.

Now the Powers have combined to teach him the difference. They have joined together, and in round terms bidden him obey them or take the consequences.

You remember that home rule was promised to Crete, and that (after the peace negotiations were signed) the Sultan announced that he would see about the reforms later.

The Powers have now sent word to him that home rule must be granted to the island at once, the Turkish troops instantly withdrawn, and a Christian governor appointed.

Word has been sent to Turkey that if she oppose the Powers they will blockade Constantinople.

With all these different complications to harass him, Abdul Hamid cannot be a very happy man.



**I**T is generally understood by those who make a study of such matters, that the arrival of Weyler in Spain will be followed by serious trouble for the Government.

It is well known that he is opposed to Sagasta's rule, and so the Carlists, who would like to see Don Carlos on the throne, the Republicans, who would like to abolish the throne altogether, and several other lesser parties are approaching Weyler in the hope of attaching him to their cause.

He has arrived in Barcelona, where he will remain for a few days, and will then go on to Majorca, his birthplace.

Barcelona is known to be the headquarters of the Carlist revolution, and though Weyler has implied that he belongs to neither Carlist nor Republican party, his sojourn in Barcelona will give him ample time to see how the land lies, and find out what profit there may be for him if he joins the Carlists.

It is reported that he desires to form a party of his own, which shall oppose home rule in Cuba, and uphold the kind of warfare that he waged as the only means of saving the colony for Spain.

This is a clever idea of his, for he is likely to find many adherents among the merchants, who are dissatisfied with Sagasta's plan for home rule, and for giving the Cuban legislature the right to fix the tariff on all goods sent into Cuba.

The merchants want the tariff arranged by Spain as it always has been, and they want it so fixed



that Cubans will be obliged to buy their goods in Spain.

One of Cuba's greatest causes of complaint was the high tariff which Spain imposed on all goods entering Cuba except those of Spanish manufacture. This tariff made it impossible for Cubans to buy their goods in any of the European markets, and compelled them to take the class and quality of goods which Spain chose to send them, and to pay whatever price Spain demanded for them.

Perhaps you will find this a little hard to understand, so we will try to make it a little clearer to you.

All countries are anxious to find markets for the goods they produce. It is for this reason that we have passed our present tariff bill.

The United States wishes to make a market for the goods manufactured here, and so she has laid a heavy tariff or duty on all goods brought into this country that are similar to those that we make here. A certain fixed number of cents has to be paid for every pound, gallon, or yard of such goods before they can be brought into the country.

The importers cannot, of course, afford to lose this money, and so they have to add it to the price of the goods, which thus become more expensive than the same class of articles manufactured here. It is therefore to the housekeeper's advantage to buy home-made goods in preference to foreign, and thus a market is made for the home products.

Spain considers her colonies her rightful market, and therefore has placed a high duty on foreign goods. The Cuban housewives therefore found it to their advantage to buy Spanish goods. Cuba is of

course too small an island to manufacture many things for herself.

This seemed fair enough, but unfortunately, the Spanish goods thus forced on the Cubans were not satisfactory to them, and were, moreover, sold at prices much too high for their value. The Cubans found that were they allowed to go to the world's markets for their supplies, they could live for half what it cost them under Spanish rule, and rebelled against the power that was treating them so unfairly.

The question of tariff is said to be the most serious stumbling-block in the way of home rule for Cuba. It has been said by both Spanish and Cuban diplomats that, if it is enforced, the Spanish merchants will rise in rebellion against the Government.

The Spanish ministers are, however, determined to carry home rule through. The plan is now completed, and has been approved by the ministers, received the Queen's signature, and become a law.



THE reassembling of Congress and the President's Message are drawing near again.

People are speculating as to the course the President will recommend in regard to Cuba and Hawaii.

It is thought that he will suggest patience toward Spain until the promised reforms have had time to be put in effect, and that if these reforms seem wise and just we shall not uphold the island in her rebellion.

As to Hawaii, it seems a foregone conclusion that annexation will be recommended, and will be an accomplished fact in a short space of time.



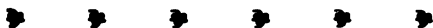
THE *Competitor* prisoners have just landed in this country. The stories they tell of the hardships they endured and the cruelties practised on them are heartrending.

They declare that they were condemned to death without a hearing, and were forced to choose a Spaniard to defend them at the mockery of a trial which they were given.

This man laughed when they told him they were not guilty, and never opened his lips to plead for them, or to ask that they be allowed to make their own statements.

When they had been adjudged guilty he offered a half-hearted plea for mercy.

They were so shockingly treated and so badly fed while in jail that they have come back mere shadows of their former selves, and weak, lame, and maimed.



THE result of the Cuban election has at last been made known, but we find that the new president is not Capote after all, but Bartolome Maso.

The election should have taken place on the 2d of September, but owing to the absence of several delegates it did not occur until early in November.

Señor Mendez Capote presided over the meetings, and it was probably this which made people think that he had been elected president.

The election was very orderly. Maso was elected president by a large majority, and Capote vice-president. Maximo Gomez was made commander-in-chief of the Cuban forces.

The fact that the election had been accomplished in such a peaceful manner is considered a proof of the great strength of the revolution, and has made a good impression on the world generally.



**T**HOSE dreadful Austrian deputies are still quarrelling!

The Reichsrath reassembled a few days ago, and continued to indulge in a mild form of misbehavior, which suddenly developed into the most shocking riot that has as yet occurred.

The old language question came up.

A number of petitions had been presented to the Parliament against the decree making it necessary for officials in Bohemia to understand both the German and Czech languages.

It was proposed, as these petitions were nearly all alike, that one would be chosen from them and read to the House, and the others merely accepted as reiterations of the same sentiments.

This project raised a most fearful outcry from the opposition, and was the signal for such a scene of violence that the very visitors in the galleries leaned over the railings and called shame on the deputies.

The President suspended the sitting, and then had to fly for his life, for the deputies, angry that he should attempt to control them, made a rush for his desk, calling him all the unpleasant names they could think of.

The Bohemian deputy, Dr. Wolff, at once assumed the lead. He was the first to reach the tribune or raised platform on which the President sits, and seiz-

ing the bell which was placed on the table, he swung it to and fro, shouting and screaming to make himself heard.

Then another deputy, deciding that he would like to have the bell, fell upon Dr. Wolff, and a free fight began.

The deputies struck one another, tore one another's clothes, and at last got out their pocket-knives and began to use them as daggers.

Some of the spectators rushed out for the police, and a few of the members went in pursuit of the President, insisting that he should return and quell the disturbance.

After much trouble he succeeded in restoring order, just as the police appeared on the scene.

Dr. Wolff defied everybody and everything, and announced his intention of coming to the next session with revolvers in his pockets.

A Cabinet council was called in the evening, and the idea of dissolving the Parliament was openly discussed.

Even this did not frighten the crazy ruffians who form the Austrian Parliament.

At the next session, doors had been erected and passages blocked, so that the President could not be attacked on the tribune, and an attempt made to get on with business.

The Government had been busy in the interval, and had prepared a motion that all persons guilty of disorderly conduct in the Reichsrath should be suspended for a certain number of days, and deprived of their pay for that time.

The President read the motion, amid the howls of

Wolff and his party. It is said that the whole affair must have been arranged beforehand, for not a word of the motion could be heard in the house. But all the same, as the President ceased to speak, the supporters of the Government rose as one man, and accepted the resolution.

You hardly need to be told what followed.

The ridiculous Dr. Wolff had been standing in front of the tribune with a cab-whistle at his lips, on which he blew incessantly during the reading of the resolution. When it was read and passed despite him, his rage knew no bounds; he started to clamber over the obstructions, and made for the President, followed by several other equally infuriated members.

The President did not wait for them to reach him, but, seizing his bell, fled in hot haste.

Count Badeni, who had been present, was also forced to flee, as the mob of angry men sought to do him injury.

After an interval the President returned and adjourned the meeting, and immediately on his withdrawal carpenters entered the hall and began to build a high and strong fence around the unfortunate man's tribune.

Despite the rioting, the Government feels that it has at last got the best of the unruly members. From now on they can be fined and suspended and excluded from the Reichsrath until the sentence has expired.

It is to be hoped that the idiotic Dr. Wolff will be given a recess of several weeks. He seems to need rest from his Parliamentary duties.

The unruly party, which is opposed to the Government, is infuriated at the passing of the resolution.

They declare that it was a violation of their constitutional rights, and a meeting was held to decide what they should do about it. Nothing was, however, decided upon.



**A** TERRIBLE fire has occurred in London during the past week.

It is the worst fire that has visited the city since the Great Fire in 1666, when the whole heart of the city was burned.

This fire, though it consumed 13,000 houses and laid waste 400 streets, compelling 200,000 persons to camp out in the country, has always been regarded as one of the greatest blessings London ever knew.

London had been visited by a terrible plague, and the city was built with such cramped and narrow streets, the upper stories of the houses projecting and nearly touching one another, that the infection was borne from house to house, and it did not seem possible to stamp out the disease, because there was no means of properly airing and purifying the city.

The horrible disease would seem to have passed away, when suddenly there would be a fresh outbreak, carrying off hundreds of victims, and bringing terror into every heart again.

Then the great fire broke out. For four days it raged and consumed everything in its path, but at the same time it so thoroughly purified the city that the plague was stamped out for good and all.

The present fire occurred in the most crowded part of the city, in the heart of the business quarter.

London is not laid out like an American city, in blocks and squares, with broad straight avenues running for miles, crossed at regular intervals with wide and open streets.

It is, in the older part, a network of narrow roadways, with courts and alleys lying back of them. The streets turn and bend and twist and go in every direction, and leading out of them are other little winding streets. These side turnings are delightful for those who know London well, because you can turn down here and up there, and cut off corners this way and save miles that way, by threading through these strange byways that lead in and out of the highways.

In case of fire, these time-saving lanes and alleys are most dangerous to the welfare of the city, for they are very narrow, with houses on either side, and flames can easily reach from one side of the street to the other.

This is precisely what happened at the recent fire. It sprang from side to side of these narrow ways, until much of the business portion of London was in flames.

There has been a good deal of talk about this fire, because the first engine did not reach the scene of the disaster until fifteen minutes after the call had been sent, and it has been said that the English firemen are not nearly so expert as the American.

It seems hardly fair to criticise the English firemen without knowing the difficulties they had to contend with. Some of the streets through which they



had to drive are hardly wide enough for two vehicles to pass, and the fire occurring at midday, all these ways were blocked with carts.

The English firemen cannot drive as rapidly and recklessly as our firemen do on our wide avenues, for any attempt at such driving would mean certain destruction to engine and apparatus.

The English alarm system does not appear to be so perfect as ours, but otherwise the same engines are used, and the department is finely organized. The arrangement of the city is all that prevents them from doing the quick and effective work that we can accomplish.

When a fire breaks out here, it is the duty of the person discovering it to run to the nearest fire-alarm box, and, opening the box, pull down the hook he will see inside. This causes a signal-number to appear on the key-board in front of the operator at headquarters.

The number tells him the district in which the fire has occurred, and with one touch of a telegraphic key he sends out an alarm to the thirty-odd engine-houses in the neighborhood of the fire.

The pressure on the key at headquarters releases the horses in the stalls of the various engine-houses. Instantly these clever beasts dash out of their boxes and place themselves at the shafts, the collar clasps around their necks and harnesses them to the engine; the men slide down the poles to their places, the gates swing open, and the engine is out and dashing along the road in less time than it takes to tell about it.

By the use of regularly appointed signals, the first fireman who arrives at the fire can inform head-

quarters just how serious the fire is, and whether more engines should be sent.

On one occasion a great fire broke out in the busy part of New York city. It was a serious fire; and according to the records at headquarters, in less than four minutes the first batch of engines had arrived and three extra calls had been sent out, which were speeding half the engines in the city to the scene of the fire.

It will interest you to know that the fire department of the city of New York has reached such a degree of excellence that the risk of serious damage and loss by fire has been greatly reduced, and, in consequence, the insurance companies have lowered the rate of insurance; that is to say, they do not charge people as much money to insure their property this year as they did last year and have done for many years past.



THE anxiety about Professor Andrée has increased. The steamer which left Tromso, Norway, in search of the explorer has returned, and reports that no traces of him could be found. Search parties were sent out in every direction, but nothing could be discovered.

The vessel sailed on November 5th and returned on the 21st, and her crew declare that a most vigilant search was made.

The vessel was sent in consequence of the report brought in by the wrecked whalers that they had heard cries for help.



**A** STRANGE freak of nature is reported from Kansas.

The railroad station of Rozel, eighteen miles from Larned, has been swallowed up.

When the people in the neighborhood went to bed at night, the station was in its usual place; in the morning the station, two or three small elevators, and a few other small buildings had disappeared.

Investigation proved that they had been swallowed up, and had disappeared in a chasm.

The depth of this rent in the earth cannot be determined. The hole is said to be about an acre in extent, of oblong shape, with walls reaching straight down for seventy feet, at which depth the hole is filled with dark, stagnant water, into which anything that is thrown immediately sinks.

No lives were lost, as no one remains at the station over night.

The interest of the surrounding country is intense, and many theories are advanced as to the cause of the catastrophe.

Some think that the station dropped into an immense cave, and others that it was caused by the underflow of the Arkansas River, which is overflowing its banks at the present time. Others think that this section of Kansas is over an immense underground river or sea.

A similar accident occurred in Meade County, Kansas, ten years ago. A section of land crossed by a public road disappeared in a single night, leaving a chasm which is a notable landmark to-day.



**T**HE plans for the Bronx Park Zoölogical Gardens in New York city have been perfected, and are now before the Park Board for acceptance.

From all accounts, the new Zoo will be one of the finest animal gardens in the world.

It will cover two hundred and sixty-one acres of land, and is to combine picturesque scenery for the pleasure of the visitor, with roomy quarters and as nearly natural conditions as possible for the animals.

The buffaloes are to have a huge field appropriated to their use, where they can roam at will. The visitors who wish to see them must climb a wooded hill, from which they can view the beasts without disturbing them.

The lions and tigers are to have open cages, where they can romp and play.

It is proposed to paint the walls that divide these cages one from another with African landscapes, so that the captives may feel as much at home as possible.

The monkeys in the new Zoo are to be accommodated with a little artificial forest, where they can roam freely. The birds are to have a huge tree-grown aviary, with bathing-ponds and every desired luxury.

The gardens being so large, and the extent of the domain of each class of animals so spacious, it has been found necessary to arrange a means for the visitors to see all the beauties of the Zoo without undue fatigue.

It has therefore been decided to use electric motor-carriages throughout the park. Two fine roadways are to be constructed, which are to meander through

the gardens, taking in all the buildings, ranges, animal enclosures, and lakes and ponds.

One roadway is for vehicles going in one direction, and the other for carriages going in the opposite way. By this means the visitors will be able to see everything in the gardens without getting tired.

This must be a lesson taught by the World's Fair in Chicago. There you had no choice between walking until you almost dropped from fatigue, or being wheeled about (at ruinous expense) in an invalid-chair by a stripling youth who would pant and perspire until stout and healthy passengers felt in duty bound to get out and walk to save their charioteer's further exertion.

G. H. ROSENFELD.

## INVENTION AND DISCOVERY.

**CURRYCOMB AND BRUSH COMBINED.**—  
This is such a fine article for the comfort of our animal friends that we cannot refrain from telling our young readers about it.

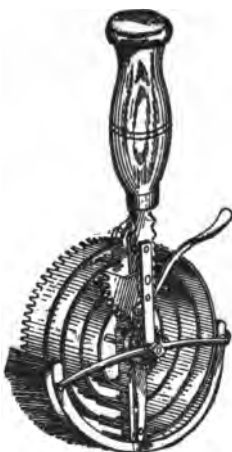
Many of you may have curried a horse, or stood by during the process, and watched him shrug and twitch with pleasure as the little iron teeth scratched his skin, and have seen his coat grow glossy and satiny as the brush was applied as soon as the currying was over.

Now this operation is most delightful to a horse; it is to him what taking a bath is to us; and properly done it makes him feel fresh and vigorous and quite happy to do his master's work.

If it is not well done he feels restless and dirty, and the pores of his skin become clogged, and the good horse gets sick.

Currying a horse is quite hard work, and lazy grooms do not like to do it, and so they have invented a means of shirking the brushing which is very unkind to the horse.

Every owner wishes to see his animals with glossy, shining coats, and so bad grooms, to save the trouble of currying and brushing, will rub the horse over with a cloth dipped in kerosene. The coat will shine

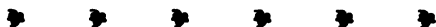


beautifully, but the poor horse is made most uncomfortable.

The currycomb and brush prevents this wicked practice, by making the cleaning of the horse so easy that it is not worth the laziest man's while to oil the horse instead of currying him.

As you will see by the illustration, the currycomb has a dandruff brush attached to its outer edge. As the comb is withdrawn the brush passes over the skin that has been curried, brushes it clean of dandruff, and makes it smooth and glossy. After one *good* currying with this device the nag is ready for harness, his coat sleek, shiny, and, above all, clean.

You young people who are the happy owners of horses, must always make sure that the gloss on your favorite's coat is the result of health and cleanliness, and not kerosene.



**C**AR-STEP.—This excellent device is the invention of a young lady of Pittsfield, Illinois.

Every one who has travelled in Pullman cars knows the discomfort of that last step before you reach the ground. It is true that the porter is always waiting with a little wooden stool on which you step from the high car-step above, but for old people or lame people or nervous people there is always the dread that they may miss the little stool, and be tumbled over on the platform.

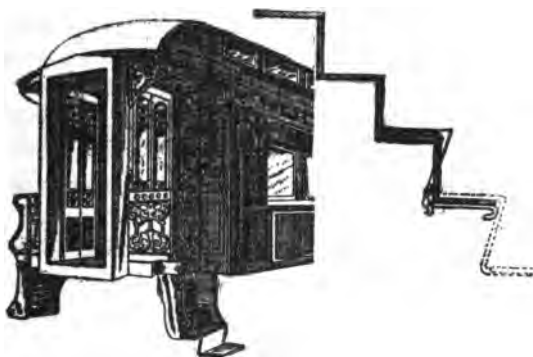
This invention is to prevent any such difficulty.

The steps of the Pullman cars can only be a certain length, and must not jut out beyond the sides of the car, otherwise they would be liable to be torn off

## And What is Going On in It 1621

when the car passes through tunnels or narrow places. It is therefore impossible to have them built any longer than they are at present. The new invention, however, adds a step without going beyond the proper limit.

It is done in this way: The step is made of iron, and is joined to the regular wooden steps by strong



rods. When the train is in motion the extra step folds under the car-step. When the train stops the porter touches a lever, and down comes the extra step, making the descent from the car as easy as walking downstairs.

It is a fine invention, and we hope soon to see it used on all Pullman cars.

G. H. R.



## BOOK REVIEWS.

**T**HERE has just been published a collection of sketches and essays by Charles Dickens which have hitherto been uncollected and none of which has been reprinted in the United States. This cannot fail to be an extremely interesting book to the great army of admirers of Dickens. His books always bear the unmistakable imprint of the master novelist's mind—in his fun, satire, and humor going hand in hand, as well as in his sincerity and interest in the poor. Everything that Dickens wrote has upon it the mark of genius, and this book will come as a delight to many.

("Old Lamps for New Ones, and Other Sketches and Essays," by Charles Dickens. The New Amsterdam Book Company: 350 pages, cloth, \$1.25.)

## PRIZE CONTEST.

**O**WING to the improper character of many of the prize contests which have recently been offered by many papers and to the criticisms which have been called forth by them, we have decided that it is best to withdraw the contest begun in No. 55. We know that these contests are of great interest to our readers, and hope that we shall be able to renew them in the near future without subjecting ourselves to the risk of criticism which so properly attaches to any of the prize contests being published.

# THE GREAT ROUND WORLD



AND WHAT IS GOING ON IN IT.

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**W**HEN we take up our history books and read the accounts of the great deeds that have been done, we are very apt to wonder how the people felt in those times, and if it was not much more exciting to *live* history than it is to learn it.

We have an opportunity of judging for ourselves how it feels, for we are now living through a very important chapter of history.

Cuba, Turkey, Haiti, and Hawaii are all making history for us that will make very stirring reading for the scholars that come after us, and now Austria has joined in the procession, and is giving us an episode that will make one of the most exciting pages in that country's history.

The present occurrences in Austria are of the utmost importance to the world. They show that the time has passed when kings can rule as absolute monarchs, and that the voice of the people must be listened to.

We told you of the anger of the Austrian people against Count Badeni and his Government, and how

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the Emperor approved of him and his work, and was determined to uphold him in spite of the opposition.

We also told you that there is a clause in the Austrian constitution which gives the Emperor power to act on his own authority without consulting the people, in case of emergency.

But Francis Joseph, Emperor of Austria and King of Hungary, backed by this powerful clause, has not been strong enough to protect his Prime Minister, and in the face of the anger of the people has not dared to use the privilege which the constitution gives him.

This is a great chapter in history. It all happened in this way :

We told you in the last number how the Government rushed a resolution through the Reichsrath, which gave the President of the House the power to suspend unruly members and prevent them from entering the chamber.

As soon as the Reichsrath reassembled, it became evident to the opposition that the Government considered the resolution legally passed, and intended to act on it.

This so enraged the deputies that no sooner was the sitting declared open than they rushed to the President's tribune, seized the papers on his desk, tore them, and scattered them over the house.

The attendants had not been prepared for this rush, and had allowed some of the angry members to pass through the gate which had been made in the fence around the tribune.

As soon as they realized what was passing, they fought and buffeted the intruders, until they had ex-

## And What is Going On in It 1625

pelled them from the enclosure, and the President declared the sitting adjourned.

This had no effect on the furious mob with which the chamber was filled.

One of the members again made a rush for the tribune. The gate had been closed, but, climbing over the fence, he made a dash for the President's bell and portfolio.

The President, amazed at this daring, pushed him away. In an instant a crowd of his friends, howling and shouting, swarmed over the fence, and a regular fight began on the tribune itself.

The deputies had by this time lost control of themselves, and proceeded with blows and kicks to drive the President and Vice-Presidents of the Reichsrath off the tribune, or raised platform, on which the President sits.

One of the Vice-Presidents was knocked down and trampled on, and one account of the affray said that the President was so roughly handled that he fainted.

Finally, the deputies drove the representatives of the Government from the tribune, and took possession of it themselves.

What new deed of violence they might have attempted it is impossible to say, but at this moment a door at the end of the chamber opened, and in marched a force of sixty policemen.

In their trim uniforms and their spiked steel helmets, they presented a very formidable appearance, and the effect on the house was magical.

The members were astounded that the Government should dare to infringe on their rights and privileges

by sending police into the chamber that was sacred to the liberties of the people.

The Commissioner of Police was not in the least embarrassed. He treated the deputies as he would any other disorderly mob, and, marching his men to the foot of the tribune, ordered the deputies to come down from it.

The deputies firmly refused to do any such thing, whereupon the Commissioner took one man by the shoulder and ordered him off.

The deputy resisted, and was seized by six stalwart policemen, and carried bodily out of the chamber.

Five others who refused to obey the Commissioner were treated in the same unceremonious way.

Dr. Wolff, who up to this moment had been dumb with amazement, now called on the ministers to remove the police.

Order having been partially restored, the President returned and reopened the session. His appearance was greeted with a storm of whistles, shouts, beating and slamming of desk-lids, and the usual uproar, led by Dr. Wolff, who, too exhausted to do anything noisier, contented himself with blowing a shrill cab whistle.

It was impossible to restore order, for even the friends of the Government were indignant at the introduction of the police into the chamber.

Relying on their privileges as members of the Reichsrath, the deputies had for days behaved in a shameful and unmanly manner. The people were indignant that their representatives should so disgrace them, and the sympathy was all with the Government. The calling in of the police changed the

situation. The Government had interfered with the rights of the people, and every lover of liberty was in arms against the outrage. The riotous deputies now became heroes and martyrs instead of noisy, foolish men, not fit to be intrusted with parliamentary privileges.

The President of the Reichsrath, having gone so far, was determined, if possible, to end the disturbance at once and for all. When the noisy demonstrations recommenced, he ordered Dr. Wolff to leave the house, suspending him for three days—that is to say, forbidding him to re-enter the Reichsrath for that space of time.

Wolff, of course, refused to obey, and the aid of the police was called for. A shameful struggle ensued, in which the deputy's chair and desk were smashed to pieces.

Twelve other members were seized by the police and turned out of the chamber.

While this was going on inside the house, excited crowds had gathered outside. As the torn and dishevelled members were expelled, the people, regarding them as martyrs in the cause of liberty, began to murmur against the Government, and finally grew so violent that a strong force of police had to be fetched to disperse them.

Forgetting that the foolish conduct of these deputies had blocked all legislation, and brought the Government and country to such a pass that the dissolution of the bond with Hungary was likely to occur at any moment, the people only realized that their liberties had been interfered with, and their rights had been taken from them.

The people do not brook interference in their rights.

In the days of King John of England, the people allowed the vicious king to get to a certain point, and then with their hands on their swords, ready to rebel if he resisted, they forced him to sign the great charter, *Magna Charta*, which has secured to Englishmen their rights from that day to this.

It was signed by King John at Runnymede, near Windsor, in 1215.

So in France, five hundred years later, when the people had stood all they could from their kings, they rose against Louis XVI., and were not satisfied until both the King and the Queen, Marie Antoinette, had paid the forfeit of their lives for their folly and arrogance. This happened in 1793.

When the anger of the people is roused, there is trouble for the Government.

In Vienna, though the Government had so far won a victory in turning the turbulent members out of the chamber, they felt there was danger in the air when the students surrounded Dr. Wolff as he was thrown out of the Reichsrath, and marched with him to his home, honoring him as a hero.

Later, matters began to grow still more serious. Masses of workmen left their work, and began to parade the streets, crying out against the government that had usurped their rights.

Soldiers were called out to guard the principal buildings, especially the house of Count Badeni, the unpopular Prime Minister. Squads of soldiers appeared in every street, forcing the crowds to move and disperse.

It was an almost impossible task. The crowd that was driven around one corner would reappear at the next. The soldiers would disperse the mob in front of them, and it would re-form at their heels.

It seemed as if Austria were on the verge of a revolution.

Realizing that nothing could stop the trouble but the resignation of Count Badeni, several members of the Reichsrath hurried to his home, and begged him to put an end to the disturbance.

The Minister would not yield. His sovereign had confidence in him, and he would not be driven out by an ignorant mob.

Another meeting of the Reichsrath was held, at which more violent scenes occurred. Dr. Wolff presented himself in the chamber and tried to take his place, whereupon he was seized and taken to prison.

The feeling among the people grew stronger, and at last one of the town officials, Burgomaster Luegers, waited on Count Badeni, and informed him that the people were now so excited that there would be bloodshed if he did not resign.

Hearing this, the Prime Minister went to the Emperor and resigned his office.

It is reported that the Emperor at first refused to accept the resignation, whereupon Badeni informed him that he would not undertake the responsibility of holding office longer, as he had been informed that the people were ready to rise.

The Emperor then accepted the resignation, and it soon became evident that the action had only just been taken in time.

Crowds had assembled outside the Reichsrath, wait-



ing for it to open, and the attitude of the mob had become so threatening that the hussars had to draw their sabres and charge the crowd to keep it in check. Several people were killed and many wounded.

This roused the mob to fury, and matters were just developing into a serious riot when Burgomaster Luegers appeared on the scene.

Driving through the streets at full speed, forcing his horses through the crowds, he hurried from mob to mob, shouting the good news that Badeni had resigned.

The anger of the crowd at once melted away. The people who had assembled with rage in their hearts soon became quiet. The night, which might have been one of bloodshed and murder, was turned into a fête, laughter and song succeeded the angry murmurs, and the danger was over.

The next day it was announced that Baron Gautsch von Frankenthurn, a man who is a great favorite with the people, had been appointed Prime Minister in the place of Badeni.

It is said that as soon as the new cabinet is formed, Baron Gautsch will endeavor to bring about a meeting between the heads of the two parties which are so violently opposed to each other on the language question, and see if he cannot arrive at some understanding with them.

It is also said that Baron Banffy, the Hungarian Prime Minister, insists that the Reichsrath must agree to the renewal of the Austro-Hungarian contract for one year, else Hungary will act independently of Austria, and a separation of the two monarchies may follow.

After the news of Badeni's resignation there were still angry demonstrations in Vienna, but after the police had released Dr. Wolff peace gradually settled down on the city.



**T**URKEY does not seem to have taken Russia seriously about the old war debt.

In spite of her assurance that she had no intention of increasing her navy or enlarging her store of war materials, she has placed an order for one hundred and fifty large cannon with Krupp, the famous German gun-maker.

These cannons will cost a large sum of money, and the various European Powers are watching with much interest to see what Russia will have to say to it.

It is rumored that the Turks look upon Germany as their most powerful friend, and are willing to defy Russia or any other nation so long as Germany shows a disposition to stand by them.

This winter is likely to give us some more interesting chapters in European history.



**T**HE Sultan of Turkey has fresh worries.

The Albanians are now rebelling against him.

Albania is on the western border of European Turkey; its shores are washed by the Adriatic Sea.

It is a mountainous country, inhabited by a war-like race of people, who are much given to robbery and brigandage.

The Albanians are a curious people. They claim to be descended from the Pelasgians, who were a

people of Greece, supposed to be the most ancient race in Europe.

They arrived and settled in Europe centuries before men began to keep records of the events that occurred, and so their origin is unknown. It is supposed they came from Asia, and probably from India.

The Albanians base their claim to Pelasgian origin on their language, which differs from any known tongue, and cannot clearly be connected with any of the mother tongues. These mother tongues were the original languages from which the various modern languages are derived.

More than one thousand languages are spoken on the globe, and these are so different that each is unintelligible to the speakers of the other.

The study of these languages is an especial science. Students of this science, philologists, as they are called, have traced, classed, and grouped these thousand languages, until they have divided them into six main groups, or mother tongues.

The formations of the verbs, the plurals, and the declensions are the main guides to the identification of a language.

The study of philology is an intensely interesting one, and while it is very difficult, its pleasures are easily within the reach of every young scholar who is beginning the study of Latin, French, and German.

Our own English language is one of the most interesting with which to begin the study.

The ancient Britons were Celts, and spoke Celtic; when they were conquered by the Romans, Latin words crept into the tongue; and as Romans gave place to the Saxons, and the Saxons to the Danes,

words from the German and Norse tongues were added to the language. Finally, came the Norman Conquest, and with it a flood of French words. The English we speak to-day is a mixture of Celtic, Latin, Saxon, Danish, and French.

As you learn your foreign languages you will be interested to find how many Latin words and forms you are using every day; and as for German and French, there are so many words in these languages resembling our own that you are constantly meeting old friends in the course of your new studies.

For instance:

ENGLISH.	FRENCH.	ENGLISH.	GERMAN.
Papa	Papa	Father	Vater
Mamma	Maman	Mother	Mutter
Table	Table	Brother	Bruder
Chair	Chaise	Sister	Schwester
Boot	Bottine	Hat	Hut

Some of these words have a common Latin root. The word "table," for instance, is derived from the Latin word "*tabula*."

If the Albanians do indeed speak a tongue that cannot be closely connected with any of the known languages, it is more than probable that they are a remnant of some ancient and world-forgotten people.

Albania is under Turkish rule, but the Albanians do not seem a very pleasant people to govern.

If they are not satisfied with those who are set in authority over them, their fierce qualities rise to the surface, and they are apt to do violent things.

The last governor of Albania made himself so objectionable to the people, and they in turn made

things so unpleasant for him, that he sought safety in flight.

A new governor was appointed, but he in turn found no greater favor with these mountaineers than his predecessor. Annoyed that they should have had two obnoxious officials sent to them one after the other, the Albanians have become restless and are threatening to revolt.

A Turkish commissioner has been sent to try and calm them, but further trouble is feared.



THE Haitian matter, about which we told you last week, promises to arrive at a peaceful settlement.

At first, however, it assumed such a threatening aspect that it seemed as if serious trouble must follow.

The Haitian Government was very much disturbed when it was learned that a German warship was to be sent to bombard the capital city, Port-au-Prince, in case the indemnity, or damages, demanded for Herr Emil Lueders was not paid.

The Haitian Government immediately asked the United States to use its good offices, and endeavor to bring about a peaceful settlement with Germany.

Our Government began to make inquiries into the matter, and learned the Haitian side of the story.

It seems that Lueders is not a German citizen, after all. He is the son of a German father and a Haitian mother, was born on Haitian soil, and is, according to the laws of the country, a citizen of Haiti.

He had, therefore, no right to appeal to Germany

for protection, and President Simon Sam will not listen to Germany's protest.

In addition to this, it seems that Lueders is a tiresome fellow, and that this is the second time he has been arrested for resisting and attacking officers in the performance of their duty.

The Haitian ministry looks upon this demand from Germany as a mere cloak to enable her to seize some territory, and establish a German colony in the West Indies.

With this belief in mind, Haiti has appealed to the United States to interfere and protect them, on the ground of the Monroe Doctrine.

We told you about this in the supplement following page 210. It says that the United States shall forcibly resist any attempt to extend the European political systems in America.

Our Government was in a slight quandary over this appeal from Haiti.

We have no quarrel with Germany, and we do not want to have one, but still it was clearly our duty to do what we could to assist a weaker sister republic.

After much consultation and thought, the heads of the Government decided that our ambassador in Berlin, Mr. White, should be instructed to ask what Germany's intentions were in the matter.

It was cabled back that the German minister had given a satisfactory reply to Mr. White, and so the United States has decided not to interfere actively in the matter unless Germany attempts to seize territory.

In the mean while, Haiti has sent a very dignified letter to Germany.

The republic declares itself willing to discuss the matter with Germany, but objects to the German method of judging and settling the whole affair without first inquiring as to both sides of the trouble.

The demands of Germany are considered excessive, and in any case Haiti will not consent to pay any such sums as those asked.

In her answer, Haiti complains of the conduct of Count Schwerin, the German representative in Port-au-Prince.

It declares that he forced himself into the presence of President Simon Sam, and in an angry and insulting manner demanded Lueders' release, threatening many things if Haiti dared to oppose him.

Because of these circumstances, President Simon Sam refuses to have anything more to do with Count Schwerin, and declares that the further discussion of the matter must take place in Berlin.

The latest news says that Germany has changed her mind about sending a warship to Port-au-Prince, and that the vessel intended for Haiti will go to China. Two German school-ships are to call at the West Indies during the winter, and to them will be intrusted the settlement of the Lueders matter.

It is probable, however, that the whole matter will be settled by arbitration.



**F**ROM the fact that an extra ship is to be sent into Chinese waters, it would seem that the Germans do not intend to give up the Bay of Kiao Chou.

Telegrams from China have given us further details.

It seems that the German minister to China has presented a string of claims to the Chinese Government which are so absurdly large in comparison to the amount of damage done, that people do not scruple to say that they are only offered as a means of enabling the Kaiser to keep the territory he has seized.

Here are the damages demanded by Germany for the murder of her two missionaries:

The murderers must be discovered and punished.

The officials concerned in the murder must be punished.

The mission buildings which were destroyed must be rebuilt.

The sum of six hundred thousand taels must be paid to the relations of the dead missionaries. A tael is worth \$1.40, so you can see for yourselves what a big sum this is.

A heavy sum of money must be paid to defray the expenses of the German naval expedition to China, and money must be paid to keep the German force in the Bay of Kiao Chou, which they have seized.

The Chinese Government, on hearing these demands, said that the Bay of Kiao Chou must be given up before they could even be discussed.

The German minister replied that Germany would not give up Kiao Chou, and there the matter rests.

The representatives of the other foreign powers think these terms are unreasonable, and that China shall not think of accepting them.

China has expressed her willingness to rebuild the mission-houses and punish the criminals. She hopes



to be able to settle the difficulty by diplomacy, as she is not in a position to go to war.

The cowardly governor who gave up the forts without firing a shot has been condemned to death.



**T**HE Queen Regent has signed the decree giving home rule to Cuba.

The plan, in brief, is that the island shall be governed by the Captain-General (who is to represent the mother country) and two chambers of Congress, the Council Chamber and the House of Representatives.

There will be thirty-five members in the Council Chamber, eighteen of whom will be appointed by the crown, and the other seventeen elected by the people. All of the members of the House of Representatives will be elected by the people.

This Congress is to settle all the affairs of the island, with the exception of the foreign policy, the question of relations with other countries, which will be arranged by Spain.

The supreme authority will be vested in the Captain-General, who will have to give his consent to all the acts of the Congress before they can become laws.

The army and navy will be under his sole control and direction.

Congress will have the right, subject to certain restrictions imposed by the home Government, to fix the tariff duties.

The mayor and all the city officials will be elected by the people, and while the Spanish Government

keeps to itself the right to the final voice in all decisions, the prospect offered the Cubans seems fair home rule.

Porto Rico, another Spanish possession in the West Indies, is to enjoy the same privileges as Cuba.

The insurgents, however, will have none of this.

Both Gomez and Garcia have published proclamations, so severe in tone, that there can be no doubt that the insurgent leaders are sincere in their declaration that they will have nothing from Spain but independence.

Here is Gomez's proclamation:

"HEADQUARTERS OF THE GENERAL-IN-CHIEF OF THE  
CUBAN ARMY, SANCTI-SPIRITUS, NOVEMBER 15th, }  
1897, THIRD YEAR OF THE INDEPENDENCE.

"The news I have received of the establishment of autonomy in Cuba by the Spanish Government compels me to remind the military and civil leaders of the revolution once more that our only aim is independence. Therefore,

"Article 1.—Any military commander of the Cuban army accepting proposals of autonomy from the Spanish Government, or even conferring with Spanish envoys for any arrangement of peace, shall be immediately put under arrest, summarily court-martialled, and, if declared guilty of such acts, sentenced to death as a traitor to his flag.

"Article 2.—Any envoy from the Spanish Government, or from any Spanish or military commander, or from any political party favoring the Spanish dominion in Cuba, who shall approach our lines and confer or try to confer with any military or civil repre-

sentative of the republic of Cuba, and propose to him the acceptance of autonomy from Spain, shall be immediately put under arrest, summarily court-martialled as a spy, and, if declared guilty, hanged according to our military laws.

"These articles shall be enforced by all the generals and subordinates of the Cuban army in the West and Santa Clara, the general commander of the East already having orders to enforce our laws on the matter. For country and liberty.

"MAXIMO GOMEZ."

It is said that the publication of these proclamations has created a deep impression in Havana.

Under these proclamations, any person who seeks the Cuban lines to offer home rule to the soldiers will be hanged as a spy, and any Cuban listening to such proposals will be shot as a traitor.

The two brave commanders have therefore made it very difficult for Spanish agents to approach their soldiers and corrupt them.

Very few battles are reported from Cuba. It is said that the Spanish troops are massed in such large numbers that the Cubans do not dare to attack them. It is also rumored that the present season being the one in which the supply of vegetables is scarcest in the island, the insurgents are not well enough supplied with food to venture on any long marches.



THE *Dauntless* has again succeeded in conveying an expedition to Cuba.

She left Jacksonville with a schooner, the *Jenny*

*Thomas*, in tow. When she reached the mouth of the St. Johns River, she was overhauled by the cruiser *Vesuvius*. Nothing contraband being found on her, she was allowed to go on her way after an hour's delay.

Unfortunately, it never occurred to the officers to search the vessel in tow, and so the daring little vessel got safely away.

It now appears that the contraband material was on board the schooner, and that after the cruiser was safely passed, the *Dauntless* cast anchor in some convenient spot, took her forbidden cargo on board, and sailed away to Cuba without further hindrance.

The Spanish authorities are much annoyed over this incident, and think the United States is not showing a proper regard for Spain in allowing filibustering expeditions to leave her shores at a time when Spain is trying to pacify the Cubans with such liberal reforms.

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**D**ON CARLOS is said to be showing some activity again.

Realizing that the new decree giving Home Rule to Cuba will be very objectionable to many Spaniards, he has called a consultation of the leaders of his party, and asked them to go about among the people, and rouse them against the Government.

He promises that if he is called to the throne, he will not show any such mercy to the rebellious Cubans, but will compel them, by force of arms, to obey the will of the Spanish sovereign.

The leaders of the Carlist party do not, however, seem to be in any great hurry to act.

Such a revolution as Don Carlos is anxious to begin means life or death to the nobles and men of position who support him. If the rising fails, these men will be regarded as traitors to their country, and shot or exiled. In any case they will lose everything that they own or that the Government can discover and take from them.

With so much at stake it is but natural that the nobles should wish to be sure that their reward in case of success will be as great as their punishment in case of failure.

They are therefore anxious to secure certain pledges from Don Carlos, before they openly join themselves to an enterprise so full of peril.

Don Carlos does not seem willing to give these assurances, and so the rebellion is at a standstill at present.



**T**HERE was a little excitement during the past week over the announcement that the English and French armies had met in battle in West Africa.

The story was not, however, believed, because the English Government had given orders to her soldiers that they were to avoid any conflict with the French, and the same directions had been given to the French by their Government.

It is, however, felt that trouble is pretty sure to come ere long, and so England has been sending more soldiers to the Niger territory, and now has a force of four thousand men there.

A commission was appointed to examine into this vexed boundary question, and it has been sitting in Paris for many weeks.

Unfortunately, neither party seems willing to wait until the commission has finished its work.

The French, maintaining that they have a right to seize any city or land that is not occupied by an armed force belonging to any other nation, have been sending out armed parties to take possession of any territory they can get. They have already taken possession of several places that England has long looked upon as her property.

The British are naturally not going to submit to this, and so they, in their turn, are trying to seize land wherever possible.

It is feared that in some of their various raids the British and French may meet, and a serious conflict ensue.



FROM India it is reported that the Ameer of Afghanistan has refused to listen to the envoys from the Afridi tribes, and that they are about to submit to the English rule.

They will be forced to give up the rifles and plunder they have taken, and hostages will be demanded of them as a guarantee of further good behavior.

The allowance made by the English Government to the Afridis will be stopped. The Khyber Pass, which was held by them, will be reopened, and matters will proceed much the same as if no rising had occurred.

A state durbar will shortly be held, at which the chiefs of the Afridis will do homage, and submit to the English rule.

A durbar is, as you no doubt remember, a levee or reception.

It is rumored that the results of this campaign are

very unsatisfactory to the English people. The hill-fighting, however, turned out to be so much more severe than the English expected, and the tribesmen proved such formidable foes, that they were glad to make peace on whatever terms they could.

To punish the natives as they had intended would have taken such a large sum of money, and employed such a number of troops, that the Government finally decided that the wisest thing was to put a speedy end to the difficulty.

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**T**HE Soudan campaign has also been brought to a close.

The English people are also indignant about this.

They think that the Government ought not to have allowed such a good opportunity for punishing the Mahdists to slip through its fingers.

With a little more perseverance, the lower Soudan would have been opened up to the world and Gordon avenged.

As it was, no decisive battle was fought; the Mahdists, under Osman Digna, steadily retreated before the advance of the British.

After the brilliant reconnoitring trip to Khartoum, and the shelling of the city by the two little gunboats, it was expected that something decisive was about to be done. But no advance has been made by the main army, and now it is positively stated that no further steps will be taken until January.

People are wondering why the soldiers were sent to the Soudan, if they are only to camp on the banks of the Nile and contemplate the Mahdists from a distance.

After building their railroad, and making such excellent preparations for a brilliant campaign, it seems astonishing that the troops should be allowed to sit down and wait, without striking a blow.

It is, however, rumored that the English Government does not wish to spend more money pushing the campaign further, and that more troops are needed to bring the campaign to a successful termination.

Whatever the reason, nothing more is likely to be done in the Soudan for the present.



THE committee which was appointed to find out just how much it would cost to make armor-plate, has sent in a report which will be presented to Congress at the earliest opportunity.

It appears that it will cost over three and a half million dollars to build an armor-plate factory capable of making the amount of armor required by the Government.

It has not yet been decided whether the factory shall be built, but the Secretary of the Navy is going to advertise for offers to build it so that he can lay the whole matter before Congress at one time.

The Carnegie and Bethlehem steel companies have not been idle while the Government has been making its inquiries.

Krupp, the German gun-maker, has recently invented a process for manufacturing armor-plate which is said to make a plate that is still more durable and better than that manufactured by the Harvey process.

The Carnegie and Bethlehem companies no sooner heard of the Krupp process, than they sent experts



to examine it, and finding it to be all that was represented, they purchased the sole right to use the process in this country.

The Government, of course, wants the best possible armor for its ships, and if the Krupp is the best, they must have Krupp armor-plate.

The cleverness of these two firms has, however, made it impossible for the Government to manufacture this kind of armor for itself. If it is to be used, it must be bought from the Carnegie or Bethlehem people.

The Secretary of the Navy does not approve of the Government spending so much money in building a factory of its own. It is said that when he lays the matter before Congress, he will recommend that the armor be bought of the Carnegie or Bethlehem firms.

It is stated that he expects to get the armor for \$425 a ton.

The Carnegie Company are, however, masters of the situation. With the Bethlehem works, they own the right to manufacture this new and excellent armor, and if the Government must have it for its ships, the company will ask what price they please. Their excuse will no doubt be that they have had to pay so much money for the right that they are obliged to make the price high.

G. H. ROSENFELD.

WANTED—A RECIPE FOR A BOOK.

**Y**OUR editor had an interesting talk a few days ago with one of our best-known naturalists, who said: "Boys and girls are the keenest observers, if they are interested in anything. We naturalists get much of our most valuable information through their quick eyes and minds."

"And," he added, "the more they see, the more they want to see and know, and they are constantly coming to me for facts, asking me why I do not write good books."

"Well, why don't you?"

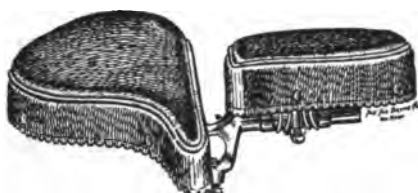
"I'll tell you why. It is because I want to write a book which will tell them *just* what they want to know, and I do not know what our boys and girls are interested in. If I write about pets, what kind of pets are they most interested in—dogs or cats, horses or birds, squirrels or fishes? If I write about wild animals, must it be about their homes and what they do, or about the best ways to hunt and trap them? Then, again, I am not sure if they are not more interested in hunting for beautiful and curious things on the seashore—shells, crabs, sea-anemones, and such things."

Your editor believes in asking the boys and girls to say for themselves what they want, and then to give that to them in the best possible way. Therefore he answered: "Ask the boys and girls what they want. Do not ask one or two, but just ask one or two thousand, and give them just what they ask for—no more and no less." As he cannot write a letter to you all,

will you not, each one of you, write a letter addressed to "Naturalist, care of Editor of GREAT ROUND WORLD, 5 West 18th Street," and in this letter say just what you would like: a book about birds, pets, bees, wild animals, shells, fishes, or snakes—for he knows all about these things, and can write a book on any or all of these subjects, or, indeed, anything that has to do with woods, fields, or ocean, and the wonderful and interesting things found in them. We hope that our promise to this naturalist, that our boys and girls can and will tell him what he wants to know, will not lead to a disappointment.

## INVENTION AND DISCOVERY.

**I**F any of our boys and girls have found their bicycle saddles as uncomfortable as your editor has found his, they will be delighted to learn that there is to be had a sensible as well as most comfortable saddle. The pleasure of riding your wheel for miles without



feeling your saddle can only be appreciated by those who happen to have a saddle which fits; the great trouble is that very few people fit the average saddle; and as the saddle cannot be adjusted, perfect comfort is not obtainable. With this new saddle the case is different, for it can be adjusted to fit a large or small person exactly. It also has a contrivance which permits the parts to move up and down so that there is no friction whatever. Our attention was called to it by one of the officers of the navy, who has proved himself an expert in wheel contrivances, and a careful test bears out all of his statements. The saddle is well made and inexpensive (\$3.50).

## BOOKS RECEIVED.

**W**E have received a very attractive little book called "Uncle Robert's Visit," which is the third part of the series of books called "Uncle Robert's Geography." It is published by the Messrs. Appleton in their series of Home-Reading Books, and presents nature study and geographical knowledge in the most attractive form, being woven in a story of "Uncle Robert's Visit" to the farm. This particular uncle, like some others we have known, was a fund of information and a source of delight to the nephews and nieces. He went about with them in the fields and woods, and, without forcing it on them in any way, so ordered the conversation that they learned much of nature on each trip. These uncles are treasures, and to those who cannot have them always with them, to read of some one else's uncle in this attractive form is charming.

The book is well made, a handy size, with a colored frontispiece showing the farmhouse; it is illustrated throughout in a practical way which cannot fail to interest children.

("Uncle Robert's Visit," Home Reading Books: D. Appleton & Co., 1897; 50 cents.)

We wish to acknowledge the receipt of a new and illustrated edition of the old favorite, "Gypsy Year at the Golden Crescent," by Elizabeth Stuart Phelps, illustrated by Mary Fairman Clarke.

(Dodd, Mead & Co., \$1.50.)

# THE GREAT ROUND WORLD



AND WHAT IS GOING ON IN IT.

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**T**HE troubles in Austria have not been brought to a close by the downfall of Count Badeni and the appointment of Baron von Gautsch.

Count Badeni was, as you will remember, particularly obnoxious to the German element in Austria, and many people thought that his dismissal would restore harmony. Instead, it has given rise to some very serious rioting in Bohemia.

We explained to you in a former number that Austro-Hungary is composed of a number of states and provinces.

The leading races in this much-disturbed country are the Germans, the Slavs, and the Magyars.

The Germans number about ten and a half millions; the Slavs, who comprise about nine distinct races, about twenty millions; and the Magyars about seven and a half millions.

The most important of the Slavs are the Czechs, or Bohemians, who number about five and a half of the total twenty millions.

While, as you can readily see, the Slavonic races considerably outnumber the Germans and the Mag-

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yars, the government is vested in these two latter races, and therefore the Slavs are forced to obey the will of the governing people. They do so, as we have seen, with a very bad grace.

Between the Magyars and the Germans there is no great friendliness, but the Hungarians have their own parliament, and are independent in many things. Between the Austrians and the Czechs there is an intense and undying antipathy, which it seems impossible to overcome.

The Bohemians would like to be as independent as the Hungarians, but their desires are not heeded, and they are forced to submit to the government of the Austrian Reichsrath or parliament.

In this assembly, however, they can show their true sentiments, and the friction between the rival races is extraordinary. If the Bohemians want any special laws made, the Germans oppose them. If the Germans try to get a measure through the parliament that is for their benefit alone, the Czechs combine to defeat it.

When, therefore, the German party succeeded in ousting Count Badeni, the Czechs were furious.

The German Austrians foolishly celebrated their victory with bonfires and illuminations, making a fête of the success which was so hateful to the Czechs.

The angry Bohemians sought revenge in riot.

In Prague, the capital of Bohemia, there were fierce anti-German risings.

The houses of the Germans were bombarded with stones, the German theatre and German restaurants were attacked and damaged, and the German Quarter, or portion of the city where most of the Germans

live, was visited by an angry mob which plundered the houses and shops.

All persons speaking the German language were subject to attack, and for this reason the unfortunate and harmless Jews came in for their share of the popular hatred. The majority of them do not speak Czech, and many of the signs over their shops are in the hated German language. Many of them were therefore robbed, beaten, and cruelly ill-treated.

The riots grew so serious that they almost amounted to a rebellion.

Thousands of Czechs streamed into Prague to assist the rioters. The streets were filled with furious men, who attacked and beat any person using words of German. The very women on their way to market were not safe. They were obliged to wear the Bohemian national colors to save themselves from attack.

One poor old woman was severely beaten because she could not speak Czech. About three hundred Germans were taken to the hospitals, suffering from wounds they had received.

The disturbances having assumed such a serious character, the troops were ordered out to restore order.

They were greeted with showers of stones, broken glass, or any missile that came handy. The soldiers were finally obliged to fire on the mob, and in consequence many persons were injured.

The riots continuing, Prague was put under martial law, and regiments were drafted from Vienna to assist in quelling them. Twelve thousand in all have been massed in the city of Prague. It is evident that the Government considers the situation grave, as the men



have been sent out armed as for war, and furnished with the various necessities as for a regular campaign.

When martial law is proclaimed in a district, it means that all persons within a certain limit are to be subject to the rules and regulations in use in times of war.

These rules are very strict. Persons who resist are arrested, tried, and severely punished. Sometimes if they cannot give a good account of themselves they are hanged as spies.

The law that has been proclaimed in Prague is known as the *Standrecht*, and is not exactly martial law. Instead of the military officers sitting in judgment on suspected persons, the civil judges of the law courts are given military powers. They try and sentence people with military haste, and their sentences are put into effect within a few hours after they have been passed.

There is no appeal from the judgments of the *Standrecht*; and so quickly are they carried out, that if a person is ordered to be hanged, and the regular executioner is busy, the judge can call on the soldiers to carry out the sentence.

No sooner were these severe measures enforced in Prague, than the wrath of the people began to calm down.

Four men were handed over to the mercy of the judges; each received a sentence of twenty years' imprisonment, and was immediately taken away without time for farewells.

The hand of the law is very heavy in Prague at this moment, and for this reason her citizens are gradually returning to their senses.

Throughout the length and breadth of this great city the people are forced to live by military rules. Among other orders, the commanding officer insists that the house doors must be closed at seven every evening. Shops have to be closed at five, cafés must have their lights out and doors closed at nine, and every person in the city has to give an account of himself whenever it is required.

Under these laws the people of Prague will continue to live until peace is restored. The condition of the city is very pitiable. The schools are closed, the hotels are empty, and the tradespeople declare that bankruptcy lies before them.

Amazing stories are told of the dreadful things done by the rioters in their hatred of everything German. It is said that the Children's Hospital was attacked, and pelted with stones until all the windows were broken. The poor little invalids were for hours subjected to the freezing cold, and all because the doctors and nurses were Austrian Germans. In another part of the city an ambulance with a sick man in it was attacked by the mob, because the doctor riding with the patient was known to be a German.



**W**HILE these horrors have been going forward in Prague, matters have not improved much in Vienna.

The two parties are more furious against each other than ever. It is asserted that if the Reichsrath reassembles with the same president, the previous disgraceful riots will be repeated.

It is said, however, that there is a chance of an un-

derstanding on the language question, but it is thought that it will be impossible to pass the Austro-Hungarian Compromise Bill in the Reichsrath.

This bill is the contract which holds Austria and Hungary together as one country, and which, as we have told you, expires on December 31st of this year.

If it is not renewed, Austria and Hungary must be separated.

As it has been impossible for the two nations to agree as to the terms of the new contract, it has, as we have told you, been suggested to make a temporary one for one year, which will bind the kingdoms while the permanent contract is being prepared.

It is this one-year agreement which it is supposed cannot be passed by the Reichsrath.

If it becomes evident that the Reichsrath will not pass this necessary bill, it is thought that the Emperor will finally take advantage of his right under the constitution, and, dissolving the Reichsrath, act on his own authority, and accept a one-year's agreement with Hungary.

If Francis Joseph is forced to take such a step it is likely that he may not call a new parliament for some time, but govern the country himself.

In the mean while, Baron Banffy, the Hungarian Prime Minister, has offered a bill in the Hungarian Reichstag (parliament) on this vexed question.

The Austrian parliament is called the "Reichsrath," the Hungarian the "Reichstag."

This bill provides that the contract between Hungary and Austria shall remain in force for another year, till December, 1898, and that if new arrange-

ments have not been made by that time the compact shall be finally broken.

If nothing satisfactory has been proposed by May, 1898, the Government promises to submit proposals for the regulation of matters between the two countries, which shall go into force when the contract expires in December, 1898.

As soon as this bill had been read, Francis Kossuth (who, as we told you, is the son of the great Hungarian patriot, Louis Kossuth) asked leave to make suggestions in regard to the bill.

It being late, the house adjourned, after granting him permission to speak on the following day.

Everybody was eager to know what Kossuth would do. His love for his country and his desire to see her free were so well known that it was supposed that he had some plan to secure his hoped-for project.

As was expected, he made a strong plea that Hungary should declare her freedom.

Having pointed out to the members that the present was a golden opportunity in which to throw off the Austrian yoke, he ended his speech by asking that Baron Banffy's bill be referred to a committee.

Those who understand parliamentary procedure will see that this was a very clever move. Kossuth hoped thus to delay the final discussion of the bill until after the date of the treaty had expired, and then Hungary would once more have her freedom.

In getting the matter referred to a committee, he was submitting it to all the delays that attend parliamentary work. It would be placed in the hands of men who would be obliged to discuss it thoroughly before they could report it, and it would be unlikely

that it could be returned to parliament before the beginning of January, when it would be too late to be of any use.

What the result of this clever move was, we have not yet heard.

It is thought by many people that the fall of the Austrian Empire is at hand.

Some fear that the German element may appeal to Emperor William of Germany, and that a war in which Germany, Austria, and Russia will be concerned may be the upshot of the present troubles.



**G**ERMANY has a good deal on her hands at this moment.

In regard to Haiti, the case of young Lueders seems to be more complicated than it at first appeared.

By the laws of Haiti he is a Haitian, having been born on Haitian soil of a native mother; but he was educated in Germany, and served his time in the German army, so he has voluntarily assumed the duties of German citizenship.

This makes the case hard to handle.

Haiti has a perfect right to insist that he is a citizen, and must be treated according to her laws, but Germany has also some right to say that he is a German citizen, and shall not be abused by a foreign country. Were Haiti a more powerful country than she is, there is little doubt that she would take a stand and insist on her rights, but as it is, she does not dare to resist a strong power like Germany.

There was, as we told you, a report current that

Germany did not intend to send any ship to Haiti, but that the matter would be settled by arbitration.

Three days after the announcement, two German cruisers entered the harbor of Port-au-Prince, and sent in an ultimatum, which is a government's final decision on a given subject.

The Haitian Government was informed that unless Germany's demands were submitted to within eight hours, the town would be bombarded.

Germany had said that two of her schoolships would visit the West Indies during the winter, and the two vessels which arrived at Port-au-Prince are believed to have been the two in question. They were, however, so fully equipped, and presented such a formidable appearance, that they were quite sufficient to seriously alarm the Haitians.

Word had been sent a few days previously that two German vessels were making all haste to Port-au-Prince, but thinking them the coming schoolships, the Haitians felt no fear. They determined to resist these German schoolboys to the last, and armed themselves to fight their foe.

When the German vessels finally made their appearance, and the Haitians saw for themselves that these so-called schoolships seemed to have just as many seamen and murderous-looking guns as the ordinary man-of-war, their courage oozed out at their finger-tips.

Before the ships came in sight, they had paraded the city, crying "Down with the Government!" in their fear that President Simon Sam might submit.

Now, in face of the two cruisers, affairs took on a new complexion, and when they heard that the town

would be bombarded if Germany's demands were not acceded to within eight hours, the natives' only fear was that the President would *not* submit.

The foreign residents did not feel any more cheerful than the Haitians.

The members of the French colony took refuge on the French ships in the harbor; the Germans hurried on board their own vessels; the English sought shelter on their trading steamers; and the Americans, having no vessels in the harbor, went to the house of the minister, carrying with them the most valuable of their possessions.

President Simon Sam determined to resist as long as he dared. He sent a request to the commander of the German vessels, for more time to consider.

The German commander refused, and one of the "schoolships" cleared its decks for action, and took up a position close to the Haitian war-vessels.

Clearing the decks for action means that everything possible is removed from the deck, and a clear space left for the sailors to work the ship in.

The Haitians then became convinced that Germany would not be trifled with, and the Government decided to yield.

President Simon Sam had feared that if he yielded too easily, the people would be infuriated with him, and try to put down his Government, so he held out until the cruiser was actually threatening the town, and then submitted. The money demanded by Germany as damages for Lueders, \$30,000 in all, was sent on board the German vessel.

The President at the same time issued a notice to the people of Haiti, telling them he had been com-

pelled to yield the rights of Haiti to the superior force of Germany.

The Haitians, besides sending the money, saluted the German flag, and sent a letter of apology to Germany.

Had the Haitians held out, and allowed the Germans to bombard their city, the United States would have been bound to interfere. It is said that the officials of our Government are very glad that the difficulty has been settled without our being forced to take part in it.



**G**ERMANY seems to be in great luck at this moment.

It is reported that China, not being strong enough to fight the Germans, and drive them out of her country, has decided to give up Kiao-Chou to them.

This rumor has not as yet been confirmed, and it seems hardly to be believed, when we take into consideration the fact that only a week ago the Chinese Emperor said he would rather give up his crown than yield to the enormous demands of Germany.

The day after this announcement was made, two hundred German marines and sailors entered the city of Kiao-Chou, which is eighteen miles from the Bay, and took possession of it.

The Chinese forts protecting the town opened fire on the Germans; but when the invaders replied with their splendid modern guns, the Chinese retreated, and the Germans took possession of the city without further trouble.

Several German sailors were injured by stones,



flung at them by the inhabitants of the villages through which they marched; but beyond that they suffered no loss, and their second victory, the taking of the city, was as easy as their first, when they captured the forts protecting Kiao-Chou Bay.

Whether the reports that China has given up Kiao-Chou be true or false, it is certain that Germany has no intention of letting the prize she holds slip through her fingers.

She has just sent out a reinforcement of twelve hundred marines and two hundred artillerymen, under the command of the Emperor's brother, Prince Henry of Prussia.

Marines are soldiers who form a part of the equipment of war-vessels.

They have none of the sailors' duties, and do not handle the ships, but are sea troops, so to speak, who fight on shipboard, or are landed to attack a town, as in the case of Kiao-Chou.

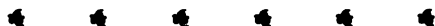
They are a very useful body of men; but being neither soldiers nor sailors, according to the recognized idea of the terms, they are looked down upon by both soldiers and jack tars. In England it is a common saying that a marine is "neither fish, flesh, fowl, nor good red herring."

It is stated that the principal reason for the seizure of Kiao-Chou Bay was that Germany desired to have her share of the China trade. Finding that China was indifferent to her wishes, she determined to seize upon a portion of Chinese soil, and put herself in a position to force the Asiatic kingdom to listen to her demands and obey them.

A later telegram from China says that Germany

has agreed to give up Kiao-Chou Bay for a coaling-station at Sam-Sah, which is on the coast of China, facing Formosa, the island Japan secured from China in the late war.

This report is also as yet unconfirmed, and so we must wait until next week to know which is the correct one.



**F**ROM the latest Cuban news, it would seem that the insurgents are gaining a good many victories.

The leader of the Spanish forces, General Pando, was met by the Cubans in a heavy engagement in Santa Clara province. The first reports that reached us were that the Cubans had won the victory, and General Pando had been killed.

This report was denied by the Spaniards, but nevertheless no news has been received from this leader since the engagement.

The Spanish authorities are awaiting information with the deepest anxiety. The idea is growing daily stronger that some disaster must have overtaken him, and that he has been cut off from communication with Havana; otherwise no one can account for the fact that no news of any kind has been received from him.

In addition to this, the towns of Guisa and Canto el Embarcadero have been captured by the Cubans. A force of Spanish guerillas, fifty strong, have gone over to the insurgents, carrying with them arms, ammunition, and a large sum of money. Gomez is busy in Santa Clara, organizing his forces to make a strong stand against the Spanish troops,

As we told you, the Government has issued an order permitting the grinding of the sugar-cane.

Gomez is determined to prevent this. In the Western provinces, the rebels have divided themselves into small bands, and are burning such cane-fields as the desolation of the war has left growing.

Gomez himself will destroy the fields of Santa Clara.

You probably remember the methods employed by the insurgents for burning the cane at the beginning of the war.

They caught snakes, which are very plentiful in the swampy districts of Cuba, and rubbing their bodies with kerosene, set fire to them, and then threw them into the cane-fields.

The agonized reptiles, in their efforts to rub the burning oil from their bodies, twined around the cane, twisted from stem to stem, and set the fields on fire in a hundred places at once.

A big engagement is reported near Sancti Spiritus, and it is also said that the rebels have hanged fifteen persons who have approached them with proposals of Home Rule.

This does not look as if the island would soon be pacified.



**T**HE Government in Spain appears to be satisfied with the President's Message, the substance of which you will find in this number of THE GREAT ROUND WORLD.

You will see, when you look at it, that the President does not think it wise to interfere for the present,

but thinks it right to give Spain time to try what Home Rule will do.

It is doubtful, however, whether the proposed reforms can be made acceptable to the majority of the Cubans.

A fresh proclamation, signed by a number of the lesser Cuban chiefs, has been issued. In it the insurgents state very decidedly that they are fighting for liberty, and will have nothing but liberty from Spain. They declare, in so many words, that their watchword is "Freedom or Death."

It is not going to be easy to pacify so determined a people.

The Havana volunteers are now giving the Government much trouble and putting fresh obstacles in the way of the success of the reforms.

We spoke about this body of men at the time of Weyler's leave-taking, and told you how opposed they were to showing kindness or mercy to the Cubans, believing only in Weyler's cruel methods.

These volunteers are violently enraged against the proposed Home Rule, and in addition have another grievance against the Government.

They have been in the habit of doing the kid-glove soldiering of the island, mustering and parading in handsome uniforms; their heaviest work has been to occasionally go on guard duty at the palace, where the Captain-General lives, or at the bank.

General Blanco is anxious to suppress the revolution, and, wishing to make use of every man who can carry arms, decided to put this idle force into the field.

This the volunteers refused to submit to. It is

said that they will mutiny rather than undertake any useful duties.

Perhaps a little ashamed to state the true cause of their anger, they have laid it all to the score of Home Rule, and declare that if Spain cannot protect them they would rather submit to American government than be ruled by Cubans.

The disaffected volunteers have declared their intention of wearing the white badge of Don Carlos, and will appeal to him rather than allow the hated Home Rule to be carried out.

In Spain, also, the Carlist party is making strong protests against the establishment of Home Rule, and it is thought that Don Carlos will seize this measure as a pretext for coming forward and making one more effort to gain the throne of Spain.

Several of the Spanish journals have begun to speak of him as "the king," and, strange to say, this treasonable conduct has been allowed to go unpunished.



THE stone house at Tappan on the Hudson River, in which Major John André was imprisoned before he was hanged as a spy, is about to be opened to the public.

For forty years it has been owned by a gentleman who absolutely refused to allow any one to enter it.

A few weeks ago a heavy storm of wind and rain threw down the whole front of the house, and immediately scores of relic-hunters descended upon the house, and, delighted that they no longer need be deterred from satisfying their curiosity, roamed at will

over the ruin, carrying away scraps of wood and stone as mementos of their visit.

Disgusted that he could no longer keep his property to himself, the owner sold the old house. The present proprietor intends to rebuild the front wall and preserve the rest of the building as it is, using it as a picnic resort.

This old house has a very interesting record.

During the Revolutionary times it was known as the **Mabie Tavern**, and the old tap-room, with its ancient bar, is still as it was in those troublous times.

Major André was the officer who, as the representative of the British general, Sir Henry Clinton, made arrangements with the infamous traitor, Benedict Arnold, for the surrender of West Point.

On returning from his interview with Arnold at Stony Point, André was arrested at Tarrytown and taken across the Tappan Zee. He was tried by court-martial and sentenced to be hanged as a spy. The sentence was carried out in October, 1780.

The tavern was used as a prison, and the room in which André was visited by Alexander Hamilton, and the window from which the doomed man was supposed to have looked out on his place of execution, are still in good preservation.

G. H. ROSENFELD.

## THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

**O**N Monday, December 6th, the first regular session of the Fifty-fifth Congress began.

At twelve o'clock precisely the Senate and the House of Representatives were called to order by their respective presiding officers.

The usual form of business was then gone through.

After a prayer by the chaplain, both bodies appointed two members to inform the President that Congress was in session, and ready to receive any communication from him.

At half-past one the President's secretary presented the Message to the Senate, and a few minutes later handed another in to the House of Representatives.

The Message, which is President McKinley's first annual message, was listened to with the closest attention.

After a greeting to Congress, and congratulations on the good work done in the extra session last summer, the President took up the

**CURRENCY QUESTION.**—You will remember that he was very anxious to make some changes in our money system, which he did not consider satisfactory. He asked Congress to appoint a committee to examine into the subject, but Congress referred the matter to the Committee on Finance, and no special committee was appointed.

The President realized from this that the country was not ready or willing to have changes made in its money system, and therefore, in his Message, he treats the currency with the utmost care.

He warns Congress that the present money system is unsound and needs changing. He reminds the law-makers that the country has undertaken to pay out a certain amount of gold every year, but that it has not made any arrangements for receiving gold. The consequence is that the treasury has every year to buy the gold it needs to pay its debts.

This the President does not approve of.

He suggests that some arrangement should be made whereby debts due to the Government shall be paid in gold, so that the treasury may receive enough gold for its needs.

He leaves the matter in the hands of Congress, suggesting that it might help matters if the bank-notes which the Government has to redeem in gold shall only be paid out again in exchange for gold. He also asks that earnest attention be given to the plan of the Secretary of the Treasury.

THE CUBAN QUESTION is treated in a very impartial and statesmanlike manner.

The President goes over its history in a way that is most interesting to us, because he is in possession of facts that no private citizen can obtain. We print a portion of his remarks:

"The story of Cuba for many years has been one of unrest, growing discontent; an effort toward a larger enjoyment of liberty and self-control; of organized resistance to the mother country.

"The prospect from time to time that the weakness of Spain's hold upon the island might lead to the transfer of Cuba to a continental power called forth, between 1823 and 1860, various emphatic declarations of the policy of the United States to permit no dis-



turbance of Cuba's connection with Spain, unless in the direction of independence or acquisition by us through purchase; nor has there been any change of this declared policy since upon the part of the Government.

"The revolution which began in 1868 lasted for ten years, despite the strenuous efforts of the successive Peninsular governments to suppress it. Then, as now, the Government of the United States testified its grave concern and offered its aid to put an end to bloodshed in Cuba. The overtures made by General Grant were refused, and the war dragged on, entailing great loss of life and treasure and increased injury to American interests, besides throwing enhanced burdens of neutrality upon this Government. In 1878 peace was brought about by the truce of Zanjón, obtained by negotiations between the Spanish commander, Martínez de Campos, and the insurgent leaders.

"The present insurrection broke out in February, 1895."

He goes on to say that the friendly offers of mediation made in April, 1896, by this Government, were refused by Spain. He mentions the cruel policy of driving the peasants into the towns, the abuse of the rights of war which were perpetrated, speaks of Minister Woodford's mission, and finally shows that action on our part was rendered unnecessary by the death of Canovas and the coming in to power of Sagasta.

He declares that the present Government of Spain seems determined to give liberal Home Rule to the island of Cuba, and to give it in spite of the serious

objections raised by certain powerful political parties in Spain.

In the face of these facts, he asks Congress to give Spain time, before making any demands, to end the war.

He refuses to recognize the belligerency of Cuba, and bases his decision on the action taken by President Grant in 1875, when the situation in Cuba was similar to the present state of affairs.

He quotes the following words of General Grant:

"A recognition of the independence of Cuba being, in my opinion, impracticable and indefensible, the question which next presents itself is that of the recognition of belligerent rights in the parties to the contest. In a former message to Congress I had occasion to consider this question, and reached the conclusion that the conflict in Cuba, dreadful and devastating as were its incidents, did not rise to the fearful dignity of war. . . ."

He declares that as regards filibustering, he thinks the Government has simply done its duty. He leaves the Cuban question practically as it was, asking Congress to wait and see how the Home Rule principle works before taking any further steps.

He promises that if, in the future, intervention in the affairs of Cuba seems necessary, he will face the necessity without hesitation.

HAWAIIAN ANNEXATION is treated very clearly by President McKinley.

He thinks the time is ripe for annexation, and recommends that the treaty shall be confirmed as speedily as possible.

He seems to think there is no doubt that Congress

will pass the treaty, for he goes on to recommend that Home Rule shall be given to Hawaiians as soon as the islands shall belong to the United States.

He reports progress on THE NICARAGUA CANAL, states that the surveys and examinations are being made, and that he hopes soon to have a full statement to submit to Congress.

THE SEALING QUESTION received some consideration. The Message gives the history of the matter, with which we are all familiar (or can easily become so by looking up the back numbers of THE GREAT ROUND WORLD, from page 732, and through several numbers following).

The President announces the treaty arranged between Russia, Japan, and the United States, and that on certain important points England is also agreed. He thinks there will be little difficulty in getting measures adopted for the preservation of the seal herd.

ARBITRATION.—On this matter he states that the “best sentiment of the civilized world is moving toward the settlement of differences between nations without the horrors of war.”

He adds that he will give his constant encouragement to all such treaties, provided they do not endanger our interests.

THE EXPOSITION OF 1900, which will be held in Paris, also comes in for consideration.

President McKinley states that from the reports received from the special commissioner who was appointed to look into the matter, he is of opinion that the coming event in Paris will be one of the most important of the many wonderful expositions which the world has seen.

He therefore asks Congress to make a liberal appropriation of money, so that the United States may be properly represented.

In regard to THE NAVY, the President says :

"The present force of the navy consists of 4 battleships of the first class, 2 of the second, and 48 other vessels, ranging from armored cruisers to torpedo-boats. There are under construction 5 battleships of the first class, 16 torpedo-boats, and 1 submarine boat. No provision has yet been made for the armor for three of the five battleships, as it has been impossible to obtain it at the price fixed by Congress. It is of great importance that Congress provide for the purchase of this armor, as until then the ships are of no fighting value."

Considering that five battleships of the largest class are now on the stocks, the President only recommends the building of one more battleship, which shall be for the Pacific Coast.

He also asks for several torpedo-boats, in connection with the system of coast defence, and recommends that floating-docks for the repairing of battleships be provided on all our coasts.

As to ALASKA, the government of the territory is, the President says, not strong or effective enough to take care of the crowds that have hurried into the country since the discovery of gold.

He therefore suggests that a more thorough system of government shall be established.

He states that he agrees with General Alger, the Secretary of War, that Alaska also needs a military force for the safety of her citizens. A military post is about to be established at St. Michaels, which, as

you probably remember, is on Norton Sound, and is one of the principal seaports of Alaska.

THE CIVILIZED TRIBES OF INDIANS were next in consideration.

President McKinley recommends that the relations with the five civilized tribes shall be readjusted, giving the Indians citizenship and individual ownership of their lands.

The five civilized tribes are the Cherokees, Chocktaws, Chickasaws, Muscogees or Creeks, and the Seminoles.

(This latter point opens a very interesting subject for us. We have not space to talk about it now, but hope to do so shortly. We should all of us be familiar with the history of the Indians.)

The President recommends that to prevent the further invasion of the United States by yellow fever it is important to discover the exact cause of the disease. He suggests that investigations to that end shall be made.

The quarantine laws, he thinks, should also be amended and improved.

He expresses a hope that now that the Congressional Library has been finished, and is such a magnificent building, and so perfect in its form and detail, Congress will appropriate sums sufficient to develop it, until it shall be among the richest and most useful in the world.

Begging Congress to keep its expenditures within the limit of its receipts, President McKinley brought his Message to a close.

G. H. ROSENFELD.

## INVENTION AND DISCOVERY.

**T**HIS is a good idea for house plants, which are such a trouble to keep properly watered.

All gardeners tell you that plants never do so well in jardinières as in the red earthen pots. It is for the reason that the common pots are porous and allow evaporation, so that the water does not become stagnant and injure the plant, while the glazed jardinières effectually prevent it.

The great objection to the red pots is that they need a saucer under them, and when moved are difficult to handle without spilling the contents of the saucer.

Plants are not a bit greedy. They don't drink all the water that is given them at once; they love to let a little water run through and remain in the saucer until they need it. It is therefore necessary to the health of plants to let them stand in a vessel that will permit them to make their little reserve store if they wish to.

The new invention accomplishes all of these purposes.

It is a deep saucer, which gives room for an ample reservoir. Attached to it are two uprights with hinged handles at the top.

These handles are to clasp the flower pot and attach it firmly to the saucer.

The pot is placed in the saucer, and the uprights are bent toward the plant until they touch it. Then the spring handles are turned down and clasp the in-

side rim of the pot, making pot and saucer practically one piece, giving all the advantages of the jardinière, with the health qualities of the earthen pot.

**CLOTHES-PIN.**—The old-fashioned clothes-pin is such a clumsy, unhandy thing, that this new invention should be hailed with delight by house-keepers.

Any one who has tried to hang out washing knows the trick that clothes-pins have of standing on their heads just when they seem most firmly gripping the rope—slipping off and letting the clothes fall to the ground.

The new pin will allow no such pranks. It is a double affair, and can grip the whole of a stocking or the shoulder of a garment, and hold it with absolute security.

It is made of galvanized wire, so that it is quite smooth, and there are none of the rough pieces and splinters which we sometimes find on clothes-pins. As the pin is of galvanized wire, it does not rust.

G. H. R.

# THE GREAT ROUND WORLD



AND WHAT IS GOING ON IN IT.

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THE heavens are affording us an interesting study just now.

Our kind old friend, the sun, it is who is giving us this benefit.

One of the largest sun-spots which has ever been observed is now to be seen.

So large is this spot that it is not necessary to look through a telescope to see it. By using a smoked glass, to dim the intense light of the sun, any one can look at the spot for himself.

Nowadays, when all persons connected with the daily papers are on the lookout for some startling fact that shall sell their newspapers, such an occurrence as the enormous increase in the size of a sun-spot is too good to be let slip by them.

Extra editions about the sun-spot were issued by some of the most enterprising journals, which contained sensational pictures, and statements that the sun-spot was in fact a new world which was about to burst forth from the body of the sun. According to these accounts, the new world was to be sent whirling

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through space, hurled, as it were, at our earth, which was to be shattered to pieces by it.

Except that such stories serve to call the attention of unscientific people to scientific facts, and teach them to observe the wonders of the universe, it really seems a shame that such marvels should be used as bogies to scare the ignorant and superstitious.

As a matter of fact, very little is known about these sun-spots. They occur in greatest numbers in periods of about eleven years apart, and astronomers and geologists agree that periods of rainy and dry seasons seem to correspond with the sun-spot periods.

When the greatest number of spots are visible on the sun, scientists agree that the climatic conditions on the earth are normal and even. When there are fewest spots on the sun we have extreme temperature and sudden changes. When we say that astronomers and geologists agree on this point, we must also admit that some astronomers are not quite satisfied that the fact has been proved.

The only fact that has been actually proved to everybody's satisfaction is that, during the time when the most spots are visible on the sun, there are always more magnetic storms and displays of the aurora borealis.

A magnetic storm is a disturbance of the magnetic field which surrounds the earth; its presence is shown by a disturbance of the needle of the compass, and it often interferes with the electrical currents, making it difficult and sometimes impossible to use the telegraph-wires.

The aurora borealis is a wonderful light seen in the

sky in high latitudes, and less frequently in other parts of the world—except during the activity of the sun-spots.

It appears as irregular patches and dancing columns of light which flame across the sky. Red, white, pale green—these shafts are now dim, now bright, seeming to throb and pulse as they glow and pale. As you watch them they change their form, and, from being pillars of fire, change to masses of glowing color.

A flash-light dancing across the sky gives you some, though a very poor notion, of an aurora. The aurora has thousands of such flashes of light, changing form and color as you watch them—filmy shafts of light, coming you know not whence.

The spots on the sun are described as being dark patches which are visible on the bright surface of the sun. They often appear in groups, and frequently the larger spots will break up into smaller ones. They are great depressions or holes in the surface of the sun, and are supposed to be formed by descending currents of gases.

Sun-spots are generally found in the neighborhood of the sun's equator, and last from a few hours to a few months.

The presence of these spots has enabled scientists to prove that the sun, like the earth, revolves on its axis.

The last period of activity for sun-spots was in 1893, and, according to the eleven-year theory, there should be few, if any, at this time. Prof. Garret P. Serviss, however, tells us that at times during the quiet period of the sun, large spots like the present

one will appear on its surface, and after assuming immense proportions, vanish.

The present phenomenon appears to be about one hundred thousand miles in length, and some people insist that they can see it gradually detaching itself from the sun and forming itself into a new world.

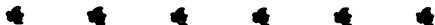
This is regarded as a hoax by scientific men who understand such matters.

It is hard to prove exactly whether the present great sun-spot is a large hole in the surface of the sun, or a large mass of the body of the sun which is about to be detached from it; but in all such matters it is wiser to take the most practical and least sensational view. Similar phenomena to that which is now interesting us have been observed before, and so, until we have proof to the contrary, it is more sensible to believe it is a sun-spot than to listen to sensational tales of a new world running wild through space.

Sun-spots were first observed about 1610 by Galileo, so they have been known long enough for us to believe that they are not new worlds about to be flung into space.

Galileo was the great Italian astronomer who invented the telescope.

The chances are that the present sun-spot may give us an opportunity of seeing a fine aurora. In 1892, when the last large spot was visible, there was a notable aurora. The light rays reached so far south that to the people in New York it appeared like the reflection on the sky from a great fire.



**F**RANCIS KOSSUTH'S effort to get the Austro-Hungarian bill delayed has not been successful.

You remember he tried to get the bill referred to a certain committee.

His motion was defeated by a large majority.

This looks rather promising for the bill which Baron Banffy is trying to get through the House, and which, you remember, is to prolong the contract between the two nations for another year; at the same time, the best friends of the measure are doubtful if it will be possible to pass it.

The mass of the Hungarian people are in sympathy with Kossuth, and would be glad if Hungary could regain her freedom. It is therefore supposed that when the bill comes up for a final hearing, Kossuth will use all his fiery eloquence to dissuade the people from passing it, and that it will be defeated.

Persons who are able to look at both sides of the question are of opinion that separation would be a great misfortune for both countries. Austro-Hungary is now a great and powerful kingdom, holding a position in Europe which enables her to preserve the balance of peace in the eastern portion of that troubled continent.

With Austria and Hungary divided into two small kingdoms with separate aims and interests, Turkey could not be held in check any longer, and the Russians, who are so full of ambition for power in the East, could do pretty much as they pleased.

The Hungarians are supposed to be a very wide-awake people, and able to comprehend the true meaning of a political situation. It is therefore supposed

that in the present crisis they are not striving so much for freedom, which would be a disadvantage to them, as for the supremacy in the two kingdoms.

This idea is outlined by Kossuth in a speech made by him the other day, in which he said: "We want a separate army and separate treasury. The King of Hungary should be Emperor of Austria as a sort of extra occupation. Vienna (the capital of Austria) is already a suburb of Budapest (the capital of Hungary), and in time Austria will become a collection of provinces attached to Hungary."



**R**IOTING still continues in Prague. The troops are patrolling the street, and special guards have been stationed at the places where outbreaks are feared.

Numbers of arrests have been made, and it is said that the prisons are so full that it has been found necessary to take no note of the smaller offenders, and only hold those persons who are accused of serious crimes.

In Vienna there has been a demonstration, unfriendly to both Hungarians and Bohemians.

One morning the inhabitants of the city awoke to find the town covered with flaming red placards.

Some of them read, "No new compact between Austria and Hungary"; and others, "No language laws. German is the national language."

These placards naturally aroused a great deal of angry feeling between the opposing parties. The police tore them down, and made every effort to find the persons who had posted them, but without any result.



**T**HE Treaty of Peace between Turkey and Greece has been finally signed by the Powers interested.

Little notice has, however, been taken of the fact; matters in Europe are looking so threatening that the affair of Greece is almost forgotten.

It is said that war will break out in the Balkan provinces in the spring, a war which will involve both Turkey and Austria.

The Balkan provinces are Servia, Roumania, Bulgaria, and Montenegro. If you look at your map, you will see that they lie between Hungary and Turkey.

The Sultan of Turkey is so convinced that such a war cannot be avoided, that he is doing everything in his power to raise money for it.

He has given orders that the taxes must all be collected by the new year, instead of May, in which month they are generally paid.

To accomplish this the unfortunate people, particularly the Christian population, are being very roughly dealt with.

It is stated that the Sultan will not recall his troops from Thessaly until the war indemnity has been paid, and that Germany is upholding him in his determination.



**T**HE reports of the various officers of our Government have followed the Message of President McKinley.

Every one is somewhat shocked to find that the tariff bill, which was to put such a lot of money in our

treasury, has fallen far short of the expected results, and, indeed, has not produced enough revenue to pay the expenses of the Government.

If the receipts from customs are not larger during the next few months than they have been during the last, the country will be \$65,000,000 behind at the end of the year, and Congress will have to devise some plan for raising this sum of money.

This means that some new tax will be imposed upon us, for the Government must have the money it needs, and the people must help to make up what is lacking.

The friends of the Dingley Bill hope that the custom receipts will increase, and think that the reason they have been so small is that the merchants brought so much stuff into the country before the bill went into effect, that they have not needed to get fresh supplies so far. In short, they claim the Dingley Bill needs a longer trial.

The enemies of the measure point out that, as a means of providing an income for the Government, the Dingley Bill has been a failure.

We told you about the discussion as to the exact hour at which the bill became a law.

The question is not as yet settled.

The importers, if you remember, declared that the bill only became a law from the exact hour it was signed; the Government insists that it was a law from early morning of the day on which it was signed.

Seventy-three importers have protested against paying duty for all day July 24th, because the bill was not signed until six minutes past four in the afternoon.

It is expected that a final decision will be given shortly, which will put an end to the disagreement.



**S**IDE by side with the fact that there is not enough money in the treasury to meet the country's expenses, the armor-plate question has come into prominence once more.

The naval officers and experts are all crying out against the folly of the Government engaging in the manufacture of armor-plate.

The board of naval officers appointed to look into the subject stated, in their report to the Government, that if such a factory is to be maintained, Congress must order the building of three new battleships every year.

The reason they give for this is that specially trained workmen are required to operate an armor-plate factory. They think it would be necessary to provide sufficient work every year to keep the factory going. If the factory were to be shut down and the hands discharged, the naval officers declare that the time and money that would have to be spent in training fresh men to undertake the work then would cost the country more than keeping the works open right along.

The Carnegie and Bethlehem people have succeeded in getting the Government to test one of their plates made by the new Krupp process.

The result of the trial, it is expected, will decide whether the Government shall buy its armor-plate as of old, or enter into the manufacture itself.

If the Krupp process is satisfactory, armor-plates



will not have to be made so thick, and the smaller quantity of steel in them will perhaps make them cheaper and enable the Government and the manufacturers to agree upon a price that will be satisfactory to both.



**T**HE Secretary of the Treasury has handed in the Currency report mentioned by the President in his Message.

It proves to be very dry reading for all but men interested in the money market, and would not interest you at all.

He suggests a plan, which is supposed to be a very wise one, for removing all uncertainty about the soundness of our money. It is, however, thought that the plan cannot be put into effect at present.

The Secretary of the Treasury has also made a report on filibustering, which is much more interesting.

Spain has accused us of not taking proper steps to prevent these unlawful expeditions.

If she can prove the truth of these accusations, she can demand that we pay her a large sum of money as damages for every expedition that has reached Cuba.

She would be quite justified in making these demands if the United States willingly and wilfully helped Cuba to defy Spain, for every shipload of supplies landed enables the Cubans to hold out so much longer against Spain.

Under these circumstances, it is interesting to learn from the official statement of the Secretary of the Treasury that we have done our duty to the best of our ability.

Mr. Gage's report, like the Cuban remarks in the Message, has an added interest from the fact that it is absolutely true.

Many of the reports we get through the newspapers have to be changed or contradicted, no matter how careful the news-gatherers may have been in selecting their information. This is because the reporters do not have access to the official documents, and are obliged to base their reports upon rumors or uncertain information.

When, however, a report comes direct from the Government, there is no hearsay in the matter. Each department of the Government has the documents relating to its business, and the reports it issues are made from the actual letters that have passed between countries—despatches and diplomatic documents which no outsider can ever hope to see.

Here, then, is Mr. Gage's report on filibustering.

He says that during two years and a half only six American vessels are said to have successfully landed filibustering expeditions from the United States in Cuba. Three foreign vessels are said to have been successful in the same effort.

With the vessels referred to it is said that a dozen harbor tugs, three or four lighters, a few small steamers, and about a dozen small sloops and schooners have been associated.

That only six American vessels out of all our large merchant navy succeeded in reaching Cuba is, the Secretary thinks, a proof of the law-abiding spirit of the American people.

He says that eight revenue-cutters, with 317 men, have cruised 75,768 miles, patrolling the coast to pre-

vent filibustering. These vessels captured seven ships and 115 men, and broke up two expeditions.

He goes into the close examination of sixty expeditions which Spain complains of.

Twenty of these he shows were stopped through the efforts of the Treasury, five by the United States Navy, four by Spain, two were wrecked, and one driven back by storm. One which is laid to our credit the Secretary declines to acknowledge as belonging to us at all.

Of the successful expeditions, Mr. Gage points out that much was due to the weakness of the Spanish patrol. In all the cases where the offenders have been caught, he shows that they have either been punished or are awaiting trial.

Concerning the case of the *Silver Heels*, the Secretary says that the Collector of the Port of New York informed him that a representative of the Spanish Consul stated to him that he did not desire the vessel to be seized at the dock, but captured after departure therefrom. It was not, therefore, so much negligence on the part of the Government, as speed on the part of the *Silver Heels*, which enabled her to slip away from her pursuers.

While we are on the subject of the *Silver Heels*, it will interest you to know that she has been taken into custody.

She arrived at Wilmington the other day, and was at once seized by the collector of that port.

An examination was made of the vessel, but nothing was found on board to indicate that the ship had been engaged in unlawful work.

The crew have been subjected to a severe examina-

tion. Each man has had to make a statement before the court.

The master and mate of the vessel swore that the *Silver Heels* left New York bound for Wilmington, N. C. Her cargo consisted of one hundred tons of coal designed for sale in Wilmington.

On account of head winds she could not approach the coast, but was buffeted about until a few days ago, when she cast anchor in Wilmington harbor.

The two officers declared that no other cargo than the coal had been on board, and that there had been no passengers.

The collector found the amount of coal in the ship that the master and mate swore was there—and so far everything goes to prove that they have been telling the truth.

The statements of the crew have been sent on to the Government, and the vessel will be kept in custody as long as it is necessary in order that a proper investigation may be made.



**A**FTER thinking matters over, the Spaniards have decided that President McKinley's Message was not so friendly to them as they at first supposed.

They have arrived at the conclusion that the part of the Message which refers to intervention on our part in case Home Rule does not succeed, is highly offensive to them.

Señor Sagasta is reported to have said that if the United States should try to interfere between Spain and Cuba, Spain would be found ready to protect herself and defend her national honor.

The heads of the Government then decided that Spain ought to increase her navy, so that she should be ready in case of trouble. An endeavor has been made to raise funds for this purpose, and one of the Spanish Senators has suggested that a public subscription be opened for the purpose.

A meeting of the Carlists has been called to protest against the interference clause of the Message, and the Spaniards generally are much annoyed over it.

General Weyler has not allowed the opportunity offered him by the present unpopularity of the United States to pass him by.

He has been doing his best to convince the people that his recall was due to our interference, and that, had he been allowed to remain in Cuba, the island would have been pacified in a very short space of time.

He and his friends have been working industriously to raise him to the position of a popular hero, and, taking advantage of some of the President's remarks about the cruel methods of warfare employed in Cuba, he says that he feels proud of the fact that the President attacks him, as it is a proof that his conduct was displeasing to Spain's enemies.

Following up these remarks, which were published in all the Spanish papers, Weyler determined to visit Madrid and pay his respects to the Queen.

He and his friends evidently hoped that there would be some popular demonstration in favor of their idol.

A holiday was chosen for his arrival, so that the lower classes might be free to greet him, and a party of his admirers, several hundred strong, went in a body to the depot to receive him.

Sagasta, learning of these arrangements, feared that some hot heads might make an attack on the American embassy, and sent a special guard to protect it.

He might, however, have spared himself the anxiety. The people took very little notice of the great man's arrival, and made no demonstration whatever. His arrival in the city seemed to be of very small importance to any but his own personal friends.



**Y**OU will be glad to hear that Gen. Rius Rivera, the insurgent leader, has been released from the Cabana fortress by a royal decree.

He has sailed for Cadiz, Spain, where he will remain in exile.

It is said that General Blanco sent for Rivera, and asked him if he would promise not to take up arms against Spain if he were set free.

Rivera replied that as soon as he was free he would return to the insurgent camp and fight for Cuba till the last drop of his blood was spilled.

General Blanco then asked him if he would go to the rebels and offer Home Rule to them.

This was met by another firm refusal. The Cubans are feeling very proud of his bravery and firmness.

You will remember General Sanguilly promised, if he were freed, never to fight against Spain, but Rivera prefers imprisonment or exile to giving a pledge which he could never keep.

Rius Rivera was the general who took Maceo's command after that leader had been killed. He was captured last March, while severely wounded.

There is a rumor that Gen. Julio Sanguilly has gone over to the Spanish cause and offered his services to General Blanco.

It is impossible as yet to learn the truth of this rumor. The General, over his own signature, indignantly denies it, and begs his friends to deny it for him.

In spite of the fact that when he was released, through the intervention of our Government, he had to sign an agreement not to return to Cuba, it is said that Sanguilly would willingly head an expedition against Spain to-morrow, if he only had the chance.

The Cuban Junta (or council) will not, however, send him, and it is said that his willingness to go back on his promised word has made the Cubans suspicious of him. They think that a man of honor would never have made a promise he did not intend to keep, and therefore, in this hour of trouble, when he is accused of being a traitor to his cause, he finds few people willing to believe in him.

If he is indeed true to the cause, he is in a very sad position.



**I**T has been officially announced that General Pando has been heard from. He is fighting Gomez, and from all we hear has the old Cuban leader at a disadvantage.

Gomez, so the story goes, is being forced to retreat before him in hot haste.

It is also said that none of the messengers has returned who were sent out by Pando to offer Home Rule to the Cuban army.

## And What is Going On in It 1693

It is supposed that they have been killed by the insurgents.

There is much discouragement in Havana over the present aspect of affairs. There seems to be no hope for a speedy end to the revolution.

\* \* \* \* \*

**W**E have had inquiries about the Esquimaux who were brought over here by Lieutenant Peary, when he brought the great meteorite from the Arctic regions.

These poor people have not been having a happy time of it.

This climate is so much warmer than their own and so different from it in every respect, that they had not been here very long before they all fell ill.

The attendants at the Natural History Museum, where they were taken, said that they first learned there was anything the matter with their charges by hearing them give voice to strange and grunting noises.

The party of Esquimaux were allowed to wander at will through the museum, and they spent much of their time roaming from room to room looking at the exhibits. No one interfered with them.

The museum is a place for study, and loud talking is never permitted. When, therefore, the attendants heard these very peculiar grunts, they began to look around to find who was daring to make so much noise.

I am afraid they suspected that some small boys were playing tricks.

They were much surprised to find that these dismal sounds came from the Esquimaux.



One of the officials, being unable to pacify them, took them all in charge and hurried them off to a quiet part of the building, sending at the same time for a doctor.

On examination it was found that the poor creatures had caught cold from the warmth of our climate, and were suffering from bronchitis.

They were all hurried off to Bellevue Hospital, where they were given the kindest care.

It was found that they could not stand the heat of the hospital wards, and so a nice cool cellar was prepared for them, and they gradually got better.

Lieutenant Peary, who had been told of their illness, telegraphed from the West, where he was lecturing, that they must have plenty of fresh air; so, as soon as they were able to leave the hospital, they were taken out of the city.

A cottage was hired for them at High Bridge, which is a little village on the Harlem River, a few miles out of New York.

The Esquimaux are allowed to wander about there pretty much as they please, and it is hoped they will continue in good health throughout the winter.

They have not been able to do any work as yet, having been too ill to attempt it. As soon as they are quite well again they will probably begin their task, but great care will be taken to have the temperature right for them the next time they are in the museum.

It is said that they were well pleased with the wretched fogs we have been having of late. Fogs are very frequent in Greenland, and the inclement weather made the Esquimaux feel much more at home.

They are looking forward anxiously to the spring, when Lieutenant Peary has promised that he will take them home.



**J**ANUARY 1st will be an important day for the citizens of New York.

It will be the birthday of the city of Greater New York, which will take its rank as the second largest capital in the world.

The mayor, Mr. Strong, is anxious to have some celebration which shall mark the passing away of the old New York city.

Many people are, however, opposed to this. They think that the first thing in people's minds should be the glory of the great new city which is to be born, and declare that anything else would only amount to holding funeral services over the old city.

This view seems hardly the correct one to take. There is so much of the nation's early history wound around the old city of New York, that it seems only fit and proper that some suitable exercises should be held, to impress upon the younger generation the importance of the old city, before it passes away and loses its identity in the larger city.

If Boston was the scene of the beginning of the War of Independence, New York witnessed its close.

On November 25th, 1782, the British finally evacuated the city of New York, their last stronghold, and the long and painful war was over.

The history of New York begins in 1524, when Giovanni Verrazano, an Italian navigator, entered the beautiful bay of New York, with his vessel, the *Dau-*

*phine*. Gomez is said to have sailed along the coast as far as New York the following year.

Fifty years later, Hendrik Hudson sailed up New York Bay, and discovered the beautiful river which flows by the city, the river which still bears his name.

This is the same Hudson who searched for the Northwest Passage—the passage which was to make a short cut from the Atlantic Ocean to the Pacific, along the north shore of America, and afford a highway between Europe and Asia, saving the long trip around the Cape of Good Hope, which had just been discovered by the Portuguese. South America and Cape Horn were as yet undiscovered.

On this search for the Northwest Passage, Hudson's sailors mutinied, and put their great commander and eight companions ashore in an open boat in the bleak, ice-bound Hudson Bay.

For this cruel deed the spirits of the crew of Hudson's vessel were supposed to wander up and down the shores of the Hudson River, unable to find rest even in death.

In Washington Irving's fanciful tale of "Rip Van Winkle," Rip encounters a strange, ghostly company of seafaring men, and it is often supposed that Hudson's crew was intended by the author.

When Hudson went back to Holland after his voyage up the Hudson River, he told such wonderful tales of the friendliness of the Indians, the number of fur-bearing animals he had seen, and the wonders he had met with, that the Hollanders became much excited and determined to send out and claim the newly discovered country.

In 1610 a vessel was sent out, and the Indians

## And What is Going On in It 1697

proving friendly and the trade satisfactory, a colony was finally established in 1613 on the southern point of Manhattan Island.

This was near where the Battery now is.

The first permanent settlement was made in 1622, the Dutch having taken possession of the country around the Hudson River, calling it New Netherlands.

In 1626 the West India Company sent out a settlement under Gov. Peter Minuit.

He landed on the island of Manhattan, and soon entered into a trade with the Indians, buying from them the entire island of Manhattan, fourteen thousand acres in size, for twenty-four dollars' worth of scarlet cloth, brass buttons, and other trinkets.

The Dutch gave the island the name of New Amsterdam, and established on it a settlement consisting of a fort, a stone warehouse, and a cluster of log-huts.

After the Dutch had established their colony of New Amsterdam, they endeavored to colonize it on the Patroon system.

By this system, any man who undertook to bring fifty settlers to the colony within five years was given the title of Patroon, and was allowed to lay claim to and hold all the land he desired and could properly cultivate.

It was in this way that the Van Rensselaers, the Schuylers, and the Van Cortlandts became important families in New York.

In 1647 Peter Stuyvesant came out to New Amsterdam as governor. He was the last governor of the province.

He was familiarly known as "Old Silverleg," be-

cause, having lost one limb in battle, he had it replaced by a sturdy wooden leg securely bound with silver.

Many of our traditions date back to the time of this hot-tempered, headstrong, and fine old gentleman.

His estate was called the Great Bouery, and there was a long and beautiful lane leading from the city to it, which was known as Bouery Lane—our present Bowery.

The Governor's house is supposed to have stood near Tenth Street, a little east of Third Avenue, now called Stuyvesant Place.

Beyond Governor Stuyvesant's Great Bouery stretched swamps, woods, and clearings, until a little village was reached at the junction of the Haarlem and East rivers, which was called New Haarlem.

Peter Stuyvesant made many improvements in the city of New Amsterdam. In order better to protect it, he built a high and strong wooden palisade on the north of the town; in time houses grew up along this wall, and the street which they formed was called Wall Street.

The Wall Street of to-day, where so many fortunes are made and lost, stands on the site of the old wall built by Peter Stuyvesant to protect the city.

The first windmill was built in 1662.

In 1664 Charles II. of England, jealous of the productiveness of this Dutch colony, determined to secure it.

In 1621 James I. had claimed it by right of first occupancy.

In 1632 Charles I. reasserted this claim; and in

1654 Cromwell ordered an expedition for the conquest of the New Netherlands.

The treaty with Holland stopped these proceedings, and the colony was left in peace until 1664, when Charles II. granted the entire territory to his brother, the Duke of York.

In August of that year an expedition arrived to capture the city, which surrendered to the English fleet without resistance. The name of the city was then changed to New York, in honor of its ducal owner.

In 1673 the Dutch recaptured the city, and christened it New Orange. The following year, by a treaty of peace with Holland, it was restored to the English and again called New York.

In 1702 Wall Street was paved, and in 1711 a regular slave market was established.

In 1775, at the beginning of the war, New York declared for independence, but in 1776 it fell into the hands of the English, who retained possession until 1783, when they finally evacuated it.

In 1788 New York celebrated the adoption of the Constitution—the great Constitution under which we live to-day and enjoy our freedom. A ship, representing the Ship of State, was drawn through the streets of the city by ten milk-white horses.

Alexander Hamilton had done so much to convince the State of the wisdom of adopting the Constitution, that in recognition of his great services the platform upholding the Ship of State was inscribed in large letters with his name.

New Yorkers must never forget that it was in their city that the first President was inaugurated, and

that that President was George Washington. To New York belongs the greatest honor any American city can boast, in having placed the sceptre of government in the hands of the greatest man the country has ever produced.

On March 4th, 1789, the new Constitution went into operation, but it was not until April 30th that the President took the oath of office.

Standing on the balcony of a building in front of Federal Hall, where Congress met, and in the presence of an immense multitude, George Washington took the following oath:

"I do solemnly swear that I will faithfully execute the office of President of the United States; and to the best of my ability, preserve, protect, and defend the Constitution of the United States."

Then, amid the ringing of bells, the firing of cannon, a great shout went up, "Long live George Washington, President of the United States."

It was the streets of New York that first resounded to this glorious cry!

Federal Hall was the old City Hall. It stood on the northeast corner of Wall and Nassau streets, on ground now occupied by the United States Sub-Treasury.

New Yorkers have much to be proud of in their city.

G. H. ROSENFELD.







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